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HISTORY  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF DOWN.

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A HISTORY  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF DOWN,  
FROM THE MOST REMOTE PERIOD TO THE PRESENT DAY;  
INCLUDING AN ACCOUNT OF  
ITS EARLY COLONIZATION, ECCLESIASTICAL, CIVIL,  
AND  
MILITARY POLITY,  
GEOGRAPHY, TOPOGRAPHY, ANTIQUITIES  
AND  
NATURAL HISTORY.

ILLUSTRATED BY  
WOODCUTS, AND A COLOURED GEOGRAPHICAL, AND GEOLOGICAL MAP,  
BASED ON THE RESEARCHES OF THE ORDNANCE  
AND GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS.

BY  
ALEXANDER KNOX, M.D.,  
LATE POOR LAW MEDICAL INSPECTOR, AND AUTHOR OF "THE IRISH WATERING  
PLACES" AND OTHER WORKS.

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## P R E F A C E .

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No systematic History of the County of Down has appeared, so far as I am aware, since the publication of the valuable work of Harris, in the early part of the last century, which, however satisfactory then, is now, unavoidably, much in arrear of the information of the present day, material additions having been since made, to our scientific and topographical knowledge, from a variety of sources, and especially from the elaborate and exact researches of the Ordnance and Geographical Surveys. The time therefore seemed opportune, for attempting to fill up a blank in our local literature, by the compilation of a new work, intended to combine what was formerly known, with the results of recent inquiries, and this task, however imperfectly, I have endeavoured to perform.

Much time has been necessarily spent in the collection, condensation, and arrangement of the multifarious materials, indispensable for the completion of so extensive a work ; and I here gladly avail myself of the occasion, to express my grateful appreciation of the prompt and obliging responses, to my inquiries, received from all parties, amongst whom, I feel particularly called on to express my indebtedness, to the Earl of Dufferin, the late Lord de Ros, the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor, and Dromore, the Honourable Albert Canning, the Messrs. Daniel Delacherois, John Blakiston Houston, Samuel H. Crommelin, Arthur C. Innes, John Temple Reilly, James Alexander Henderson, Conway Pilson,

Charles Brett, John Anderson, L. Turtle, James Henderson, John Borthwick, George Tyrrell, Richard Patterson, William Russell, John A. Knox, the Rev. Dr. Pooley S. Henry, the Rev. Canon Hume, the Rev. Adam Cuppage, the Rev. Robert D. Knox, the late Rev. Dr. Drew, and Professor Hodges.

At the same time, I desire to return my thanks, for the ready access, to extended sources of information, afforded to me, by various public bodies, including the Authorities of the Ordnance and Geographical Surveys, the Irish Record Office, the Royal Irish Academy, the Libraries of Trinity College, and the Royal Society, in Dublin, and the Queen's College, Belfast.

Nor should I omit to acknowledge the information, furnished in reply to my queries, by the late Dr. Wm. Magee, of Belfast, Dr. Samuel Davison of the Dromara Dispensary, Dr. Filson of Portaferry, Dr. Thomson of Bangor, Dr. Frame of Comber, and various other members of my own profession, more specially adverted to, in the course of the work ; and I have only further to express the hope, that I have not, through inadvertence, omitted the name of any person, to whom my obligations are due.

At the end of the volume I have inserted a list of such typographical errors, as appear calculated to mislead, but not including slight mistakes, whether of punctuation, orthography, or syntax, that must at once be obvious to the eye of the Reader.

ALEXANDER KNOX.

BEECHCROFT, BELFAST,

*May 3rd, 1875.*

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# HISTORY

OF

## THE COUNTY OF DOWN.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### General History.

THE primeval history of most countries is involved in impenetrable obscurity, and Ireland, of which Down forms no unimportant part, is by no means an exception to the general rule. There is nothing singular, therefore, in the occurrence of much that is fabulous, in the earlier annals of the kingdom, nor are the apocryphal statements in which they abound, at all more absurd than the puerile legends, concerning the infancy of other countries, of which those relating to ancient Rome, offer a familiar example.

On referring to the earlier accounts of the country, we find the various writers generally arrayed in two parties, one strenuously asserting that a barbarous condition of society prevailed, and another with equal vehemence, maintaining the claim of the inhabitants to refinement, learning, and artistic skill. In this, as in many other instances, the truth, probably lies between the two extremes.

Prior to the introduction of Christianity in the fifth century, the ancient annals eulogistic of the civilization of the inhabitants are in great part unreliable, although unquestionably a considerable amount of artistic skill existed at a very early period, a fact sufficiently established by the relics still to be seen, including military works and ecclesiastical buildings, as well as many minor models of art, evincing both elegance in design, and skill in execution.

In proof of this view it is only necessary to advert to a single specimen out of many, viz., the Meeshac,\* a curiously ornamented box, constructed for holding manuscripts, minutely described by Sir William Betham, the date assigned to it being ccccciii.

A little light, too, may be thrown on the subject by a careful inspection of the domestic implements, and warlike weapons, whether constructed of stone, bronze, or iron, successively in use, which have been made the basis of a division of the more remote periods of time, into the stone, bronze, and iron ages. The stone or palaeolithic age indicates a period when unpolished flint implements were in use by a people probably coeval with the Elk and Mammoth; and the neolithic age the era which succeeded, when tools and weapons were of the same material, but of more polished and elaborate form. The substitution of bronze and iron subsequently point to an advancing degree of civilization and skill.†

But whatever may have been the exact condition of the people in the preceding ages, it may be fairly admitted that a considerable amount of learning existed, especially, as early as the ninth and tenth centuries, and when, as correctly stated by Lingard,‡ it was almost extinguished on the Continent of Europe. "a faint light was emitted from the shores of Erin, and strangers from Britain, Gaul, and Germany, resorted to the Irish schools for information." Of the names and manners of the earliest inhabitants, little can be said. We know however that the usual custom of burying their dead prevailed from the most remote ages, although the people whilst still pagan, adopted, the practice of cremation to a considerable extent, as proved by the discovery of monumental urns containing ashes, and the remains of calcined bones. It is scarcely practicable, however, from the few materials at our command, to give any continuous account of the country really deserving the name of history, but whatever credit may be attached to it, a brief sketch, at least, gleaned from the records

\* Irish Antiquarian Researches, pp. 213, et seq.

† The Naturalist's Field Club, Guide to Belfast.

‡ History of England.

of the ancient annalists, is necessary to a complete view of the subject.

Among the earlier chronicles in which information is to be looked for, we may specify the Psalter of Cashel, the Book of Howth, a short narrative commencing in the year 432, and the Annals of Tigernagh, an ecclesiastic of Clonmacnoise, which were terminated by his death in 1088, though subsequently carried on by other hands. To these may be added the Book of Armagh, certain writings attributed to St. Patrick, and the annals of Inisfallen, so called from the monks who compiled them having resided in an island of that name, situated in the Lake of Killarney. These annals embrace a very long period of time, extending from the year 250 to 1326, and their contents are now accessible to the reader unacquainted with the Irish language, in the translation of Theophilus O'Flagherty. To these we may add the apocryphal History of Geoffry Keating of a later date; and the celebrated chronicles compiled from previous records by the monks O'Clery and Conary, when resident in the Abbey of Donegal, a work universally known as the Annals of the Four Masters, a distinctive appellation first used by Colgan. These writings go back to a very early period, the second part extending from 1172 to 1616, and they may be properly described as a bald narrative of alleged facts, which there are no means of verifying, mingled with childish fables, of which the Gold Coach, the Spear, the wound of which inevitably terminated in death, and the Sling of the Monarch Crinthan Niadnair,\* which never missed its aim, may be taken as examples. The information gained from these and other sources goes back, according to the old chroniclers, to ages preceding the deluge, and although of general application, much of it has especial reference to the County of Down, to which express allusion is frequently made. The first recorded irruption into Ireland resting on the very questionable authority of the Bards, was made by the

\* See Gordon's History of Ireland. Keating's History of Ireland. Kelso's Plantation of Ireland, and Donovan's translation of the Annals of the Four Masters. Vol. 1, pp. 5 and 63.

three daughters of Cain, accompanied by Seth, a son of Adam, who reached the shores of the Island of Bauba, a name given to it in honour of the eldest of the three sisters. Next in succession is the alleged arrival, only forty days before the deluge, of Ceosair, described as a grand-daughter of Noah, accompanied by fifty girls and three men, termed respectively Bith, Ladhra, and Fintain. The exact place of their landing, even, is gravely discussed by O'Donovan the learned translator of the Annals of the Four Masters, who decides in favour of the coast of the County of Down.

Later in the course of events, Partholanus or Parrolaun, the seventh in descent, as alleged, from Noah, is stated to have reached Ireland, where he afterwards died. This invasion occurred about the time of Abraham, more than three hundred years after the flood, when the country had been several years without inhabitants, as all the earlier colonists had perished of disease. The Partholanian settlers were originally of Japhethic or Greek extraction, but they too are reported to have been subsequently cut off to the amount of 9,000 persons by the plague, again leaving the country destitute of inhabitants.

The Partholanian was followed by the Nemedian and Fomhoraic settlements, the former consisting of the Clanna Neimhidh or followers of Neimhidh, a mythological personage, signifying poetry, and alleged like their predecessors to have deduced their origin from Gog and Magog. The Nemedians are the Scythians of the ancient bards, generally held to have been an eastern people, probably of the Tatar or Mongolic race,\* and they are reported to have arrived from the Euxine sea in the time of Jacob, and to have landed in the vicinity of Dalraida, in the County of Down, where they took up their residence until they were expelled by their Fomhoraic enemies who succeeded them in the possession of the country when their chief Nemedius made his escape by flight. The Fomorians were styled sea champions, as they bore the character of a piratical tribe, whether of European, African, or Scandinavian origin, descended rather from the Cymri or Belgae than the Phœnicians. The next invasion of the island was that



of the Firbolgs, termed Celts by Wylde, and described as a pastoral people, who leaving Greece in considerable numbers, ultimately reached Ireland about 210 years after the colonization of the Nemedians, A.M. 3266, under the leadership of the five chiefs, Geanan, Rughruidhe Gan, Slainge, and Sean Gann, who partitioned the island amongst them, one of the divisions including the County of Down. The occupancy of this race was succeeded, in the age of the world, 3500, by that of a strange people bearing the uncouth name of Tuatha-de-Danain, as being descended from the sons of Danain, himself the son of Nemedius before referred to. This people which finally succumbed to the Milesians, is described as being skilled in metallurgy, cunning in the knowledge of incantations, periapts, legerdemain and jugglery, and great masons according to Wylde. Many fabulous traditions were current regarding them. Of these the most remarkable is the legend of their carrying with them in their wanderings, the celebrated stone on which their kings were crowned, and which as the chronicle alleges roared aloud during the performance of the coronation ceremony, a miraculous power which it lost at the arrival of the Christian era. This stone was subsequently carried to Scone by Fergus when he conquered Scotland, and it was finally placed in the seat of St. Edward's Chair, in Westminster Abbey.\* It was the practice of this people to burn their dead.

The last of these primitive immigrations to which we shall advert, was that of the Milesians, to whom tradition assigns a Spanish origin. The early annalists describe the arrival of this colony, of the great Gadelian race, as taking place thirteen hundred years before the birth of Christ, under the guidance of Milidh or Milesius, a king of Gallicia, of Scythian descent. This monarch had three sons, Heber, Heremond, and Ith, of whom the second was the reputed ancestor of kings in a direct line, alleged to have amounted to the number of one hundred and eighteen, and terminating with Laogaire, in whom ended the dynasty of Milesius.

\* Prichard's Physical History of Mankind. Vol. iii.

Wylde describes the Milesians as brave, chivalrous, skilled in war, good navigators, proud, boastful, but superior to their opponents the Danaans in mental culture. It has been computed that from the landing of Milesius to the mission of St. Patrick, there was an interval of thirteen hundred years, and a further space of six hundred and forty between the last mentioned era and the invasion of Ireland by Henry II. ; during which long period the seat of monarchy was not filled except by a descendant of Milesius.\* Many writers, however, including the Poet Spenser, have expressed the opinion that Milesius was only a mythical character, and that the long list of his descendants was as unreal as the monarchs which passed across the stage, in presence of the ghost of the blood-boultured Banquo.† The two sons of Milesius who had survived the war with the Tuatha de Danain, partitioned the island between them, the southern portion being allotted to Heber, and Down falling to the share of his brother Heremon, and from these Milesian chieftains descended, as it is alleged, the petty kings, heads of tribes, and old patrician families, that long bore sway in the county. Subsequently to these more remote invasions, however, many immigrations of various peoples took place from time to time, including Scandinavians, Phoenicians, Goths, Norwegians, Danes, Spaniards, Normans, English, and Lowland Scotch, and each successive colony became gradually intermixed and allied with its predecessors so inextricably, that it would be impossible to find any family of a purely distinct nationality. No doubt a peculiarity of manner, speech, and dialect, is observable in the residents in particular districts, arising from local inter-marriages and other circumstances, but we look upon the common arrangement of the inhabitants into separate classes, whether Celtic or Saxon, as altogether inapplicable at the present day.

Little is added to our scanty stock of information regarding Down by the classical writers, although several of them very briefly

\* Robinson's Ancient History.

† Shakspeare's Macbeth.

refer to Ireland. Aristotle terms it the kingdom of Ierne, and Diodorus Siculus gives it the appellation of Iris, whilst the writings of Strabo, on very questionable grounds, would lead to the inference that the early natives were cannibals. Julius Cæsar merely describes it as lying to the westward of Great Britain. But the Latin writers, generally, appear to have known little about the island beyond the fact of its mere existence, as it was never invaded by the Roman legions, and consequently not open to general observation.

The geographical survey of Ptolemy alone, compiled in the second century from various sources, gives us the first distinct information regarding the territory corresponding to the modern county of Down, which he describes as being inhabited by a people whom he terms Voluntii or Uluntii, and he even gives a slight sketch of the geography of the district, which, under the circumstance may be looked on as tolerably correct, although the latitudes he lays down are too high by several degrees.

Claudian, who wrote in the fourth century, tells us, that Ireland was in possession of the Scoti or Scots, a term by which the northern Irish were then designated, and called Scotia, a name long since transferred to the northern parts of Great Britain. This appellation, common at different times to both countries, has given rise to some obscurity which we shall here, aided by the perspicuous account of Reeves, endeavour to clear up.\* The Scoti, who probably deduced their origin from the Belgæ of South Britain, were in possession of Ireland at the era of the introduction of Christianity, but not exclusively so, as a people, termed by the old chroniclers Cruithne, probably identical with the Picts of North Britain, still occupied a part of the kingdom. However this may have been, the appellation of Scotia Major was applied to Ireland, and that of Scotia Minor to a kingdom which emigrants from the former had planted in Scotland, in the latter end of the fifth century. At this period, a colony of Irish who were still

\* Notes on Adamnan.

termed Scotch, left Dalriada, a region comprising parts of Down and Antrim, and took possession of a tract of country in Caledonia, which embraced the Mull of Cantyre and certain adjoining districts, then inhabited by the Picts and Britons, and called Scotia Minor, the northern Irish territory being distinguished as Scotia Major. This territory, at first limited in extent, was gradually increased, both on the mainland and in the islands, partly by family alliances, and partly by conquest, until in the ninth century it had come to include the whole of North Britain, which was then termed Scotland,—a designation which it still retains.

The Cruithne, Picts, or Dalaradians included the Clanna Rury, and the descendants of Ir, a chief of the remote ages. This Hiberno-Celtic race, as indicated by the names of their chiefs, and of the districts which they occupied, most probably derived the name of Cruithne or Picts from the use of colours in staining their bodies, Cruith in Celtic signifying colour, and Picti having an analogous signification, and the names in common use amongst them were derived from the particular dye assumed by the different tribes, before the adoption of coloured clothing.\*

The taxes in ancient times were varied and heavy, for in addition to the amount payable to Brian, as king paramount, the people had to meet the many demands of the chiefs of the different septs, some of which were exorbitant and vexatious. The tax or *Boroihme*, from which Brian received his surname, levied on the Clanna "Rury" alone, who inhabited a district corresponding to the present counties of Antrim and Down, amounted to one hundred and fifty cows, and the same number of hogs. One of the principal exactions referred to was termed the *Bonaght*, a claim somewhat analogous to the English coin and livery.† Of this *Bonaght* or *Bonaghtis*, there were two descriptions, the first implying free quarters for the chief and his followers, at discretion, or a com-

\* Field Club Guide to Belfast.

† Ware's Antiquities of Ireland, vol. ii., p. 31.



mutation for it in provisions or money, which last was called Bonaght Beg, or byenge. This imposition was for the maintenance of the chief and his followers, who comprised the horsemen, galloglasses or foot, and a light armed force also on foot, termed Kerns. Sorohen was a tax levied on freeholders four times a year, and assigned to the two former description of force, for their support and pay, as the imposition of Kernety was appropriated to supply the wants of the Kerns. Other exactions were soreth or cuttings, an extra contribution for the payment of the debts of the chieftain; musterowne for support of his workmen; coshery for provisions and lodgings; bode, a pledge taken for trespasses done; and assault, as a kind of amends to the kindred of a person slain. Refection was a privilege similar to the English cuddy or quidihs, and implied entertainment for one meal, or a single night only, and to this may be added cesse, a tax of five marks, sometimes arbitrarily increased to eight or nine pounds, for the occupation of a carucate of land. It should be here explained that a carucate or plowland varied somewhat in extent, being indefinitely described as a quantity of ground sufficient to occupy one "plow" throughout the year, but more precisely defined as six score acres, in the grant made to Sir Thomas Smith, in the county of Down. At a later period, in addition to the ordinary taxation, the early colonists in the fifteenth century were so weak, that they readily submitted to pay a contribution, or sort of black mail, to the Irish chieftains to secure immunity from plunder.

But to proceed. The Norsemen or Danes, from which the County of Down in particular suffered so much, made their first descent in 794, and from that time until the eleventh century, the coast of "Erinn" was not only subjected to repeated aggressions, but the north-eastern part of Ulster appears latterly to have been almost entirely under their control, as they had a stationary fleet in the Lough of Strangford, and another on Lough Neagh, which enabled them to harass and plunder all the surrounding districts. Their aggressions, however, were not indiscriminate, for they entered into alliances with some of the most powerful tribes, and

their intimacy was strengthened by frequent intermarriages with various powerful families, one of the chief of which was the Sept of O'Heochaidh, a branch of the Dal Fiatach, who then ruled in Southern Dalaraidha.

In the eighth, ninth, and tenth centuries. Ireland suffered great calamities, in which the County of Down had its full share, from the piratical inroads of these barbarous hordes, who though generally passing under the common appellation of Danes, comprised two distinct peoples, the Northmans, namely, and the Ostarians or Eastmen; the former including the Norwegians and the natives of Denmark proper, and the latter the numerous tribes scattered along the sea board of Germany.

In the year 798, in particular, this ferocious people made a descent on the coast of Ulster, where they plundered the towns, and persecuted and harassed the Christian inhabitants with unbridled fury. Not satisfied with the atrocities which they had committed, they proceeded to burn the churches, libraries, and monasteries, and to slay, without pity or remorse, the monks by whom they were occupied. In one of these terrible onslaughts, they burned the monastery of Movilla, near Newtownards, and ruthlessly massacred nine hundred of the inmates of the Abbey of Bangor, and although fiercely and perseveringly resisted by the inhabitants, they repeated their incursions from time to time, until completely overthrown in the year 1014, by Brian Boroihme, on the bloody field of Clontarf.

For two or three centuries after the defeat of its Norse aggressors, the county continued in its usual turbulent condition, of violence and rapine, the petty kings and chieftains being almost unceasingly engaged in fierce and bloody civil wars, until their hostility to each other took another direction, in consequence of the invasion of the kingdom by Henry II. and his followers. As early as the year 1084, Gregory VII., who then filled the Papal throne, had asserted his title, as of divine right, to the sovereignty of Ireland, but no effective steps were taken to enforce the claim until Pope Adrian III. issued the celebrated Bull conferring on

Henry entire authority over the island, which the Pontiff urged him to attack, at the same time commanding the inhabitants to obey that monarch as their sovereign. On a favourable opportunity occurring, in the year 1172, Henry, aided by Strongbow, De Courcy, and other experienced leaders, invaded and soon overran a great part of the country, which he partitioned out amongst his Anglo-Norman followers. The resistance of the natives to the sway of the English, however, was fierce and protracted, and for several centuries all attempts to reduce them to a state of willing and peaceable subjection were unsuccessful, a great part of the kingdom being in what may be termed a state of chronic warfare. All the efforts of the inhabitants, however, failed in driving the invaders out of the country, although their power was on the wane, down to a period so late as the reign of Henry VII., and even the rule of that monarch did not extend beyond what was termed the Pale, which included only the Counties of Dublin and Louth, parts of Meath and Kildare, with some of the principal seaports situated in detached parts of the kingdom, to which a part of the County of Down was subsequently added by the strenuous efforts of De Courcy.

The first settlement of the English in this part of the kingdom was effected in 1177, when John de Courcy, a leader celebrated for his great courage and bodily strength, arrived in Downpatrick after a four days' march from Dublin, with a small force consisting of twenty-two men-at-arms, and three hundred soldiers, without meeting any resistance on his way. Here he was besieged by Mac Donnisleibhe O'Heochaidh, or Macdonlevy, the toparch of the county, supported by the neighbouring chieftains at the head of 10,000 men, but the assailants were routed in two great battles, and Macdonlevy slain, leaving De Courcy undisputed master of the surrounding district, and the town of Downpatrick, which he made his principal residence. This territory afterwards came into possession of De Lacy, by a grant conferring on him the whole district and earldom of Ulster.

De Lacy followed the example of Sir John de Courcy, in

erecting additional castles, and extending the influence of the English throughout the wide district which had been conferred on him. After his death at Carrickfergus in 1243, his possessions and earldom passed to Walter de Burgo, through his intermarriage with the only daughter and heiress of De Lacy. The red earl, the second in succession from Walter, built the fortress of Greencastle,\* and one of his daughters was married to Robert Bruce, King of Scotland. His heir William, who was killed by his servants, left a daughter, who married the Duke of Clarence, a son of Edward III. Their only offspring, Philippa, by whose marriage with Edmond Earl of March, afterwards created in her right Earl of Ulster, the property came into the Mortimer family, and through their granddaughter Anne, who married Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, finally passed into the possession of Edward IV.

King John and the monarchs immediately succeeding him, had attempted to consummate the subjugation of Ireland by the overthrow of the native chiefs, but the third, fourth, fifth and sixth Henrys had their energies devoted to other objects, and little advance was made in completing the conquest, during the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Philip and Mary.

Some attempts were indeed made by the first of these monarchs to effect a plantation, but they were attended with little success. His title, however, was changed from Lord of Ireland to that of King, and it was made high treason to impeach it. Even on the accession of Queen Elizabeth, a considerable part of Leinster had not been divided into counties, whilst a large portion of the kingdom outside the Pale, was under the rule of petty sovereigns and chieftains of mixed extraction, in whom the Scotch, native, or Celtic so-called, and the Norman blood, were commingled, the greater part of the more recent immigrants having become assimilated in language, customs and manners, to their predecessors in the country, by frequent intermarriages and constant intercourse. Elizabeth, however, being bent on effecting a

\* Book of Howth.

thorough subjugation of the kingdom, her efforts were at last successful. With a view to this consummation, and in order, as it was alleged, "to bring the rude and barbarous nation of the Irish to more civility of manners," the Queen in 1579 entered into an indenture with two Englishmen, viz., Sir Thomas Smith, Knight, and his "sonn" Thomas, in which she agreed to grant to them and their heirs "all her Majesty's lordships, castells, monasteries, abbeys, and other religious establishments, as well as plonege, messuage, buildings, lands, mines, rents, services, villeyns, tythes, advowsons, liberties of franchises, profits, and commodities, in the great and little Ardes and Clandeboyne, on condition of their covenanting with their friends, on their own cost and charges, with the travell of their bodies, and the perill of their lives, to enter into the earldom of Ulster, with a power of natural Englishmen, to subdue and repress all rebellions, now or hereafter, in the districts mentioned, to settle in all these places true and faithful subjects, and to divide the lands with such as shall either hasard themselves, or aid with men and money." At this period the three great earls in Ireland were those of Meath, Leinster and Ulster, who exercised the privileges of counts palatine. According to Sir William Betham, the nobles of this rank had nearly the same powers as royalty itself, and could confer similar prerogatives on their barons, including "*soc*," or the power of administering justice in the barons' court; "*sac*," the holding of pleas; "*thot*," that is, taking toll and buying and selling, custom free; "*them*," having and judging bondmen, neifs (hand-women that is), and villeins with their children, goods and chattels; "*infang thef*," or trial of thieves taken within; and "*outfang thef*," or the trial of felonies committed outside their fees. The first to exercise these palatine powers in Ulster was John de Courcy, and following him Sir Hugh de Lacy the Younger. The seignory of Ulster lasted for 280 years, when, as we have seen, it merged in the Crown in the time of Edward IV. Throughout this period, the Earls of Ulster exercised the high powers incident to their rank. At a parliament holden in Dublin,



in 1297, the appointment of the first sheriff of the "liberties" of Ulster was agreed upon, and amongst the high class of officials referred to, we find the members of several County Down families including Maundevilles, Audleys, Russeles, and Halywoods. But to proceed. In a copy of the indenture between Queen Elizabeth and Smith, which was placed at my disposal through the courtesy of Dr. Knox, the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor, the unfavourable condition both of the country and the people, is depicted in quaint but strong language. Divers of the lands referred to in the grant are described as lying waste, or else inhabited by "a wicked and uncivile people, some Scottish and some wild Irish," engaged in rebellion. In addition to the stipulations previously mentioned, with the hope of bringing about a more happy state of things, it was made a further condition on behalf of the Queen, that Sir Thomas and his heirs should not make any grant or conveyance of a longer interest in any lands, than for one year, to "any meere Irish, or Scottish Irish," intermarriage with whom was strictly prohibited. These grants to the Smiths, however, subsequently lapsed to the Crown, as it appeared on two several inquisitions, that the covenants of the indenture had not in any respect been carried out by the grantees. The younger Smith, it is true, had come over to Ireland with some followers, but O'Neil, who claimed the Ards as his own, had decided on his expulsion, even before his arrival in the country, and he lost little time in effecting his purpose. Smith, who had taken up his residence at Newtown, was compelled to withdraw, with his retainers, to "Renoughhaddy" (Ringhaddy), in the Duffern," and his death, regarding the manner of which there are different accounts, speedily followed. By the Earl of Essex it was announced that, on the 12th of October, 1573, he was murdered in the Ards, by confidential Irishmen, who formed part of his own household. Camden says he was surprised by the Irish, and thrown alive to the dogs, whilst the version of the tragedy, as related by Carew, is, "That Thomas Smith, a valiant gentleman, was slain in 1572, by Neill Macbrian Ertagh (Fagartach), Lord of

the Upper Clan Hughboy, who was himself slain soon after, by Sir Nicholas Malbie," one of the generals of Elizabeth.

In 1315 Edward Bruce had invaded Ireland, where he was crowned king, and seizing from the English the principal strongholds of the north, burning the Castle of Rathmore, and destroying the Castle of Newry, in Down; he overran the country, until defeated and slain by De Breminham, on the plains of Louth, three years after his invasion.

About this period some of the O'Neills, having crossed the Bann from the westward, and having taken possession of Dalaraide, changed the name to that of Clann Aodh Buidhe or Clannaboye, the designation of the invading tribe, replaced Savage, the ancient Lord of Lecale, by White, one of the early colonists, and coerced the English there, and in other parts of the district, to pay tribute to their chief.

Shane O'Neill having been murdered in Antrim by the Highlanders, Sorley Boy, who in 1568 entered into serious conflict with the English in Ulster, was joined by Brian Mac Felim O'Neill, chief of South Clannaboye, and others of the same clan, kept up unceasing warfare with the troops of Elizabeth, led by Essex, Morris, Malbie, and other distinguished generals, until 1585, when they were at last compelled to surrender, and the final subjugation was completed by the submission of O'Neil, Earl of Tyrone, to Mountjoy.

In the beginning of the seventeenth century, the estates of the chiefs, who had so obstinately fought against the English rule, were everywhere forfeited. Some of them, however, having made their submission to the crown, amongst whom were the O'Neills of Clannaboye, the Macartans of Kinelarty, and Magennisses of Iveagh, had the attainder reversed. The possessions of the O'Neills, however, were soon again forfeited, and divided, as we shall see elsewhere, between Sir Hugh Montgomery and James Hamilton. Other large grants were conferred on Chichester, Hill, Clotworthy, and Conway, the founders of the noble houses of Donegal, Downshire, Massareene, and Conway.

We have thus seen that, though Henry II. affected a partial conquest of the country, which was succeeded by the introduction of British executive authority, modes of tenure, and courts of law, it was not until after the accession of James I. that, to adopt the language of Macaulay "the King's writs ran, and his judges held assizes in every part of Ireland," the English law finally superseding the customs which had prevailed amongst the original inhabitants, even down to the termination of Elizabeth's reign.

Previous attempts at effecting the plantation of Ulster, having in a great measure failed, the great scheme of James I. was projected, and ultimately carried into execution.

In the various plans devised for the colonization of Ulster, the object of the English government was, no doubt, to civilize the country, torn with dissensions and internecine strife; whilst that of the colonists for the most part was simply to improve their position in life. These settlers in Down and elsewhere were of a **motley** character, some being like the Smiths, civil or military servants of the Crown, others court favourites, unoccupied adventurers, farmers, labourers, or artisans, to whom a new country offered greater facilities for accomplishing their several ends, than they found at home. Many of them were wild, reckless, intemperate and licentious, but there were also not a few men of knowledge and probity, and of sober and moral habits. Their religious views were various. Some being Episcopalians, attended the services of the Established Church, whilst the English Puritans or Scottish Presbyterians, preferred the more simple forms of worship to which they had been accustomed in their own country.\*

The plantation of James embraced the counties of Armagh, Donegal, Cavan, Tyrone and Derry, nearly all of which were forfeitures. Down and Antrim are not prominently mentioned in the scheme, as parts of both countries had been already settled, and reduced to order. The distribution of the land, therefore, so far as they were concerned, had reference only to escheated

\* Professor Witherow's "Derry and Enniskillen in 1689."

properties extending in the former county from Clanbrassil across Kilwarlin, Iveagh, Kinelarty, and South Clandeboy, which had been directly tributary to O'Neill. Grants previously made to loyal subjects remained unaltered; Newry and Mourne continuing in the possession of the Bagnal family, and Lecale being held without change by the Earl of Kildare.

In the year 1619, the Order of Baronetcy was established in Ireland, with the same privileges appertaining to the order in England, and in the list of members we find the names of several families of distinction in the County of Down, including those of Rawdon, Magill, Ward, Bateson, Blundell, and Johnston. A large Protestant proprietary was also created by James I., but many of them were subsequently attainted as will be seen by-and-bye, in the reign of James II.

Towards the close of the 17th century, an anonymous letter, of which the following is a literal copy addressed to the Earl of Mount Alexander, was dropped in the streets of Comber:—

*“ December 3rd, 1688.*

“GOOD MY LORD,

“I have written to let you know that all our Irishmen through Ireland is sworn that on the 9th day of this month they are all to fall on to kill and murder, man, wife, and child, and I desire your Lordship to take care of yourself, and all others that are judged by our men to be heads; for whosoever of them can kill any of you, they are to have a captain's place; so my desire to your honour is to look to yourself, and give other noblemen warning, and go not out either night or day without a good guard with you, and let no Irishman come near you whatsoever he be; so that is all from him who was your father's friend, and is your friend, and will be, though I dare not be known as yet for fear of my life.”

To this letter no name was attached.

This vulgar production was in reality a paltry and wicked hoax, but not being thought so at the time, it produced much alarm



throughout the country. At the same time a design for bringing the Protestants into subservience to the Roman Catholics, and thereby advancing his thirst for arbitrary power, had in reality been nourished by King James, and he selected as Lord Deputy, the disreputable Richard Talbot, Lord Tyrconnell, as a suitable agent for carrying out his schemes. Under the directions of Talbot, General Hamilton took command of an army and marched with such rapidity into the County of Down, that the Protestants were entirely taken by surprise. The garrisons and population retreated before him, and made their first stand at Dromore, headed by Sir Arthur Rawdon, but on the arrival of the overpowering force of Hamilton, their inconsiderable numbers were speedily defeated, and fled precipitately. They were pursued to Hillsborough, and several miles beyond, having lost about one hundred men in their retreat. Hamilton gave protection to all who remained in their homes, but quickly followed the scattered remnant of the armed force, and gave them no time to rally. Sir Arthur Rawdon then joined the army at Derry, but Lord Mount Alexander was so chagrined by this disastrous affair, which was called the "Break of Dromore," that he retired to Donaghadee, and thence to Scotland, and many of his followers imitating his example, sought refuge in that kingdom, or in England. The Protestants of Down however made vigorous attempts to resist the Romanist soldiers. Captain Hunter at the head of a considerable body of Volunteers, attacked a company of Con Magennis at Kenningbourne, near Newtownards, and defeated and drove them out of the district, and he subsequently routed another force near Comber. He also defeated a company near Portaferry, and drove them into Lecale. He then surprised and routed the troops lying in Killyleagh under the command of Captain Savage. Magennis now advanced from Down, but he also was defeated by Hunter at the Quoile, and compelled to retreat to Dundrum. Major General Buchan who had been dispatched by King James to the scene of operation, now came up and attacked Hunter, who was in command of a body of ill disciplined volunteers, encamped between Comber and

Killyleagh, and speedily put them to flight. Many were slain in this disastrous action, which was thence termed "The Break of Killyleagh," and Hunter was taken prisoner. He made his escape however, and fled to Killyleagh, and from thence to the Isle of Man. In the meantime Buchan drove before him the routed Protestants to Newtownards, Donaghadee, and Portaferry, and he then retired, leaving a sufficient force under Major General Maxwell to preserve tranquillity in the district.

An interesting account of the expedition of General Munroe against the native Irish forces, in which some of the leading families of the County of Down, including the Montgomeries, Cromwells, and Hamiltons took part, is to be found in the narratives of Monroe and Turner, the military leaders, and in the quaint and curious account of Roger Pike, who accompanied the army, and whose letters are preserved in the King's collection in the British Museum. These documents give a revolting picture of the cruelties practised by the successful soldiery.

In this expedition, Munroe with about 2,000 men, joined the English troops, including 400 of the Lord of Ardes forces, 400 of those of Lord Clandeboye, and "three troops" of Lord Conway's, and Lord Cromwell's armed horse. These levies numbering in all about 3,400 men, rendezvoused at "Drumboe." Their march was in the direction of Newry, and after an affair with the rebels, at a fort which they had constructed a little beyond Lisnagarvey, in which about eighty of the enemy were slain; they encamped for the night in the "middle of the Woods of Kilwarlin," at the entrance of which the action had taken place. Monro's account of the affair is in the following terms:—"In the woods of Kilwarney we encountered some hundred rebels. Those who were taken got bad quarter, being all shot dead, a thing inhuman and disavowable, for the cruelty of one enemy cannot excuse the inhumanity of an other." On the following day the army marched through "Dromore," then "so consumed with fire and ruined," that there was not a house left standing but the church; and encamped at a place "eight miles of the Newry," called Loughbrickland. After

seizing and putting to the sword sixty of the rebels who had taken refuge in an island in the Lough, they proceeded to "the Newry, where they speedily took the town, and soon after the Castle, after summoning it to surrender, mercy or no mercy." On the following day after the capture, "the townsmen were detained until trial should be made of their behaviour. We entered into examination of the townsmen if all were papists, and the indifferent being severed from the bad, whereof sixty with two priests, were shot and hanged, and the indifferent were banished." "The town came immediately into our hands, and the rebels in two days, when most of them, with many merchants and tradesmen of the town, who had not been in the Castle, were carried to the bridge, and butchered to death, some by shooting, some by hanging, and some by drowning, without any legal process: and several innocent people suffered. Monroe could not purge himself of this cruelty, nor can Lord Conway as Marshal of Ireland, be exempted from his share of blame." But even a worse cruelty was perpetrated by the "sojers, who stripped about eighteen women naked, and threw them into the water, where they perished by drowning or being shot." Leaving 300 men in garrison, the army marched home through "Maginese's" and M'Carton's country, burning all the houses and "corn" before them, and carrying off great "spoyle," especially of cattle 3000 cows." On the 10th of May the army encamped on M'Carton's land, and the following night at Drumboe. "When the cows were to be divided many had been stolen away into the Ardes and Clandeboyne, and the goods were so 'sneaked' away by the Scots, that the English *traypes* got just nothing, and the English foote very little."\*

But the cruelties perpetrated by the army were outdone by the horrible atrocities committed on many of the unoffending people, as vividly depicted in the pages of Froude. In these barbarities Sir Phelim O'Neill was a principal actor, but eventually retribution overtook him, and he was deservedly convicted and put to death,

\* Ulster Journal, Archaeology. Vol. viii.

after the termination of the war. In that unhappy insurrection, the numbers perishing by pestilence, famine, and the sword, have been estimated at different amounts from 37,000 to 300,000 persons, the smaller number, we believe, being much the nearest to the truth. After the triumph of the Parliamentary party, the outlaws who had followed in the rear of the war, and continued to plunder the Scotch and English colonists, were subjected to the most rigorous measures and finally extirpated. In 1642, in consequence of the spread of the insurrection, the Parliament confiscated between two and three millions of acres which had belonged to parties participating in the rebellion, and these lands to a great extent were partitioned between the officers and soldiers. Amongst the leading chiefs who suffered forfeiture were Sir Phelim O'Neill, and Magennis, Lord of Iveagh. Before the rebellion the Roman Catholics who had owned about two-thirds of the good land in the kingdom, had their portion reduced to less than one-third, the forfeitures, on the whole, amounting to more than five millions of acres. Of these, two millions belonging to the Protestants, of which they had been deprived during the rebellion, were subsequently restored to them; 300,000 acres were ecclesiastical property vested in the Bishops, Deans, and Chapters; 200,000 acres were divided amongst Ormond, Roscommon, and other Protestants; 120,000 acres were assigned to the Duke of York, leaving about 2,300,000 acres, which were restored to the Roman Catholics.

After the taking of Drogheda and Wexford by Cromwell, the horrible barbarities which were perpetrated must leave a stain on the name of that great commander for all time, but the successive submission of the various fortresses throughout the kingdom, soon put the whole country in possession of Ireton, whom he had left in the chief command. After the death of Cromwell, his son Richard confirmed his brother Henry in the government of Ireland, under the new title of Lord Lieutenant, but after the abdication of Richard, Charles II., who was proclaimed without dissent in all parts of the kingdom, and his accession to the throne was



favourably received by the Protestants in Down, but the Roman Catholics, although they had all along remained staunch to the Crown, received no favour, and instead of the encouragement which they might reasonably have expected, became in many cases the objects of forfeiture and punishment, but when James II. succeeded his brother all his measures were favourable to his co-religionists. At this the Protestants, not without reason, became so alarmed that many of them fled from the kingdom. In the North, Down included, they had proclaimed William and Mary, and strenuously supported their cause against James, who on his arrival in Ireland, consequently attainted many of the leading Protestants in the county, and as a number of their descendants still hold influential positions in the district, the following list of the sufferers, it is presumed, will not be without interest here :—

Annesley, Francis, Gent.	Haltridge, William, Gent,
Bagnall, Nicholas, Esquire	Hamilton, James, Esquire
Baily, James, „	Hamilton, James, „
Baily, Alexander, Gent.	Hamilton, Joshua, „
Bates, Matthew, „	Hamilton, Gawen, Gent.
Berkly, James, „	Hamilton, Patrick, „
Blackwood, John, „	Hamilton, Gawen, Gent.
Boyer, John, „	Hamilton, William, „
Brent, Bernard, „	Hawkins, John, Esquire
Brent, Jasper, „	Hodges, Mark, Gent.
Brett, William, Esquire	Hogg, William, „
Brown, Hugh, Gent.	Irwin, Thomas, „
Buller, Sir James, Knight	Jackson, Edward, „
Campbell, David, Esquire	Johnston, Hugh, „
Campbell, Robert, Gent.	Johnston, Thomas, „
Campbell, William, „	Low, John, „
Cosslet, Charles, „	Lock, Anthony, „
Echlin, John, Esquire	M'Nab, John, „
Echlin, Robert, Gent.	M'Neal, Archibald, Clerk
Fairely, Hugh, „	M'Neal, Daniel, Gent.
Gilson, Robert, „	M'Neal, Dean John, „
Haddock, John, „	Magill, James, jun., „
Hall, Roger, Esquire	Magill, John, „

Morison William, Gent.  
 Mathews, Archd., Saml. (2)  
 Maxwell, Arthur, Gent.  
 Maxwell, George, Esquire  
 Maxwell, Hugh, Gent.  
 Maxwell, George, „  
 Moore, Jas. sen. and jun.  
 Montgomery, Hugh, Esquire  
 Montgomery, Hugh, „  
 Montgomery, Jas., Gent.  
 Montgomery, John, „  
 Montgomery, Wm., „  
 Montgomery, Cornet, Wm.  
 Munroe, Henry, Esquire  
 Munroe, Henry, Esquire  
 Mussenden, Jeremy, Gent.  
 Morris, John, Esquire  
 Palmer, William, Gent.  
 Pattent, James, „  
 Price, Nicholas, Esquire  
 Pringle, William, Gent.  
 Rawdon, Sir Arthur, of Moyra  
 Redmond, William, Gent.  
 Ringland, John, „  
 Robinson, John, „  
 Ross, James, Esquire  
 Ross, Robert, „  
 Sanders, John (2) „  
 Shaw, William, Gent.  
 Smart, John, „  
 Stinson, John, „  
 Stewart, Alexander, „  
 Stone, James, Esquire  
 Swift, Robert, Gent.  
 Turk, Richard, „  
 Waddle, James, „

Wallace, Hugh, Gent.  
 Wallace, John, „  
 Ward, Bernard, Esquire  
 Ward, Charles, „  
 Ward, John, „  
 Wardlow, Thomas, Gent.  
 Warner, Richard, „  
 Warner, Thomas, „  
 West, Henry, Esquire  
 White, David, Gent.  
 Wiseman, Capel, Bishop of Dro-  
 more.

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The following were resident in  
 England, and to be attainted if  
 they had not returned to Ireland  
 before the 1st of October, 1689 :

Annesley, Francis, jun., Gent.  
 Campbell, Charles, Gent.  
 Harmer, Captain John  
 Gardiner, Henry, Innkeeper  
 Griffith, John, Gent.  
 Henington, Thos. Gent.  
 Henington, William, „  
 Magill, John, „  
 Magill, John, son to Capt. James  
 Montgomery, Hugh, Esquire  
 William Hill, absent from sickness  
 or nonage, was also to be at-  
 tainted, but restored on proof of  
 loyalty, his estates meanwhile  
 being vested in the Crown.\*

The Protestants in Down, who had been much alarmed by these  
 and other arbitrary proceedings of James, had their confidence  
 somewhat restored by the landing of Schomberg, and the decisive

\* Reilly's Harris.

battle of the Boyne, which followed sometime afterwards, with the surrender of Limerick, completed their sense of security, and gave peace to the kingdom for a lengthened period.

Throughout the reign of Queen Ann and George I. and II., the Irish people, generally, remained firm in their loyalty to the throne, nor do we find during that period anything connected with the county especially deserving of notice ; but in the reign of George III., sanction was given to the independence of Ireland in legislating for herself. It is worthy of remark, however, as illustrating the very unsatisfactory state of society under the preceding monarchs, and even up to the earlier part of the reign of George III., that an Act continued in force by virtue of which all persons who were presented by the gentlemen of the county as tories, might, without trial, be shot as traitors and outlaws, and rewards were offered for their capture. It was a further provision of the enactment that any tory who would kill two other persons of the same class, became entitled to a free pardon, for all previous offences against the statute. In exercise of the powers conferred by this barbarous law, which did not expire until 1776, many unfortunate persons were hunted out, and a number of them were hanged in Downpartrick, as late as the eighteenth century. About the same period the country was disturbed for some time by certain illegal societies, the ramifications of which extended into the county of Down. These societies were termed respectively, the Hearts of Oak, and the Hearts of Steel, and their nocturnal visits inspired great terror amongst the peaceably disposed inhabitants. Their hostility was chiefly directed against the payment of rent and tithes, and murder was sometimes the result. On one occasion, when making an attack on the house of Sir Richard Johnston, near Gilford, a Presbyterian clergyman, the Rev. Samuel Morell, who happened to be his guest at the time, was shot dead, whilst assisting in the defence of the place. Sir Richard erected a monument to his memory, which may still be seen in the Parish Church of Tullylish. The authority of the law was, however, soon asserted, these illegal and dangerous societies suppressed, and

many of the members sought refuge on the other side of the Atlantic.

The Volunteers, who occupy so prominent a place in the history of the country, were enrolled about the year 1776, and held their memorable meeting at Dungannon, in 1782. The greatest number of this body, to which Down contributed a considerable quota, were Protestant dissenters. Their object at first was not secret or treasonable, although under the influence of bad advisers, the proceedings of many of them ultimately became so.

About 1793, two other illegal societies, also having adherents in the county, sprang into existence. One of them was termed "Peep of Day Boys, Protestant Boys, or Wreckers," and their enmity was directed against the Roman Catholics, many of whom they are said to have driven into Connaught. The other society received the name of Defenders, and committed a series of outrages in retaliation for the aggressions of the wreckers. In 1795, a severe engagement took place in the county of Armagh, between the Protestant and Roman Catholic population. This conflict has been termed the Battle of the Diamond, from the place near which it took place, and soon afterwards, on the 21st of September in that year, the first Orange Lodge was organized. These lodges have gradually spread over the whole of the northern part of the kingdom, and many of them have been instituted in the county of Down. The body is now very numerous, and conspicuous for its loyalty to the Crown.

Agitation and troubles again began to arise: a society termed United Irishmen, was formed in Belfast, and soon after a similar combination was organized in Dublin. These societies, at first professedly political in their object, soon became treasonable, and their plans were directed to the overthrow of the monarchy, and the establishment of a republic in its place. In a short time, encouraged by the French Directory, they broke out into open rebellion, in the year 1798. In this unfortunate insurrection many of the Presbyterian laity—especially in the county of Down and Antrim—were deeply implicated, and although a number of



their clergy abetted them in their disloyal purposes, many others of leading position, as the late Dr. Bruce, of Belfast, and Dr. Black, of Derry, strenuously resisted the designs of the disaffected from the first. After various conflicts and considerable loss of life, this disastrous rebellion terminated within a few months, after the defeat of the ill-disciplined forces under Henry Munroe, at Ballinahinch, the more decisive overthrow at Vinegar Hill, and the surrender of General Humbert, who had landed with a small French force at Killala. Of the rebels, some were executed, others were imprisoned, and many sought safety in flight. The Episcopal clergy, and the laity of the same persuasion, in general, took no part in the insurrection, which was principally carried out by a combination of Roman Catholics and Presbyterians. Some influential members of the Established Church, however, were amongst the leading conspirators, including Emmet, MacNevin, Sampson, and Theobald Wolfe Tone.

Not long after the suppression of this abortive rebellion, the Union between Great Britain and Ireland was completed in 1801, in the face of strenuous and protracted resistance, principally through the instrumentality of Lord Castlereagh, son of the Marquis of Londonderry, whilst one of its most powerful and persevering opponents was the Marquis of Downshire, the two leading families of the County of Down having espoused different sides on this great national question. In consequence of his opposition to the Government on this occasion, the name of the latter nobleman was struck out of the list of Privy Councillors, and he was also deprived of the colonelcy of the Downshire Militia. In 1846, the repeal of the Corn Laws, to which a large proportion of the agricultural population of the county were opposed, took place, and a terrible famine commenced, and continued through 1847 and 1848. The question of free trade materially affected Down as a corn-growing county, but the last-mentioned dire calamity was not by any means so severely felt as in many other parts of the kingdom. In the ridiculous effort of Smith O'Brien to excite the country to rebellion in 1848, the

people of the County Down, although much excited, took no overt part, although the Protestant inhabitants generally opposed, whilst the Roman Catholics favoured it.

The county after this foolish and unsuccessful attempt remained in a state of quiet, until disturbed by the Fenian conspiracy, the object of which was to wrest Ireland from the British sceptre, and either to attach it to some other country, or form it into a republic. For some time the kingdom was kept in a state of alarm, by the movements, and in a few instances, by the actual outbreak of the conspirators; but after a short time their machinations were defeated by the active and judicious measures of the Irish Government, at the head of which was the Marquis, now Duke of Abercorn; and the Irish Constabulary, besides receiving pecuniary compensation, had the title of "Royal" conferred on them by her Majesty, as a reward for their efficient services in the suppression of disaffection. The spirit of disloyalty, however, still lingers amongst a part of the population.

The two last laws radically affecting this kingdom passed by the British Parliament were the Land and Irish Church Acts, both, the former in particular, seriously affecting the County of Down. By the first of these, a considerable part in the property of the land was transferred to the tenant, and by the Church Act the grant to the clergymen of the Presbyterian Church, which they had enjoyed since the time of William III., was entirely withdrawn; at the same time the property of the Episcopal Church, which was then disestablished, was ruthlessly wrested from its proper object, and diverted to other purposes. This was done under the weak pretext of expediency, by acts which were openly admitted to be exceptional. Exceptional legislation, however, adopted, not on the merits of the case, but on the ground of expediency, seldom answers its purpose, and in the end generally brings its appropriate reward. That great abuses, which loudly called for amendment existed in the Irish Church, no candid person will deny, but suitable remedies were suggested, and might have been applied, without alienating to other uses the property

to which it had a clear and indefeasible title. The pretext under which the disendowment of the Church took place has, moreover, signally failed of its object. as it has in no degree promoted harmony amongst the members of different religious denominations, and it would be difficult to point out any class of the community, who really derived any substantial benefit from this harsh and arbitrary legislation, whilst a sense of its grievous injustice will long rankle in the breasts of the Protestant population of this country; although they still retain their staunch loyalty to the British throne, and a firm adherence to the union existing between the two kingdoms.

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## CHAPTER II.

Ethnology.—Peoples, Past and Present.—Manners, Language, Education, Customs, Dress, Armour, Weapons, and Food.

IN the very earliest ages, the people of Down probably resembled the inhabitants of other parts of the kingdom in their manners, habits, and occupation, and we have no reason to believe, that they were either more or less rude and uncivilised than the primeval inhabitants of other kingdoms. With the aid of the information conveyed in the previous chapter, a brief sketch of the ethnology of the country need not delay us long. Of the aboriginal inhabitants and the men of what is somewhat uncouthly termed the stone age, we literally know nothing, light only breaking in as we gradually descend, regarding the colonists arriving before the Deluge, and the irruption of the Partholarians, followed by the Nemedians or Scythians, and afterwards by the Fomorians, Firbolgs, Tuatha de Danaan, Milesians, Norsemen or Danes, Picts, the Gael who accompanied Edward Bruce, and finally by the Anglo-Normans. But with the exception of the two last, our knowledge is scanty in the extreme. Sir William Wylde describes the Firbolgs as a small, straight-haired, straight-nosed people, with blue or dark gray eyes and dark eye-lashes, and he alleges that remnants of them, as well as of the "fair complexioned" Danaans, still remain in different parts of the kingdom.

But whilst admitting the high authority of Wylde, and the probable correctness of his inferences, we question whether in various instances, they are supportable by satisfactory proof. The troops who followed the barons of King Henry into Ireland were

of mixed race, chiefly of French and Saxon blood, as were also the English, Scotch, French, and Welsh emigrants who made their way to our shores in later times, and these still further mingling with the aboriginal occupants of the country, all distinctive forms of race and tribe must have gradually merged in the general intercourse, until the population was moulded into the form in which we now behold it. This intermixture, however, was not without its advantages, for, as correctly stated by Wylde, the Firbolgs brought us agriculture, the Tuatha de Danaan chemistry and the working of metals, the Danes, commerce and navigation, the Milesians, comeliness and ruling power, whilst we are indebted to the Anglo-Normans for chivalry and organised forms of government.

Various writers who have undertaken to describe the genealogy, habits and manners, of the earlier inhabitants of the country, have pourtrayed them in a style that is far from flattering, for although neither concurring in the sarcastic observation of Hume, that the pedigrees of the ancient Irish chieftains are as "little interesting as that of kites and carrion crows," nor assenting to the highly-coloured depreciation of Froude, who alleges that the Irish people when the Normans took charge of them, were "scarcely better than a mob of armed savages, without settled habitations or industry, and with scarcely a conception of property;" and although he is countenanced in his unfavourable description by Cambrensis, who depicts the inhabitants as treacherous, bloodthirsty, licentious, and abhorrent of all order and rule, we must admit that the state of society during the long period intervening between the invasion of Henry, and the final subjugation of the country by Queen Elizabeth, was of a very unfavourable character, being marked by perpetual feuds, internecine strife, robberies, and bloodshed.

This absence of civilization, however, varied in degree, the most barbarous class being the "Woodkern" (*cethern coille*), a race of outlaws, driven from their miserable habitations by their Norman invaders, and rarely emerging from their retreats in the



impenetrable forests except in pursuit of plunder. These hordes were so dangerous, that it became necessary to pass an express law for their repression ; and their depredations were so formidable, that Adair, a Presbyterian clergyman long resident in the County of Down, classes them with the wolves which infested the country, describing them as the most formidable enemies with which the first planters in Ulster had to contend. The great forests have long disappeared, being gradually destroyed, partly to deprive these banditti of harbourage, and partly to increase the quantity of arable soil, necessary as the population increased, as well as to procure charcoal for the purpose of smelting iron, and a supply of timber for exportation. The existence of these forests is attested by the large trees found in the bogs and morasses all over the country, and their prevalence was so general as to give to the kingdom the name of Innisfiodh, or the woody island, one of the earliest appellations by which it was known.

Even so late as the end of the seventeenth century, a great part of the County of Down was still covered with wood, the best cultivated districts being Iveagh, the southern part of Ards, and Lecale, whilst extensive tracts of the barony of Mourne, and the lordship of Newry, remained almost entirely waste. The principal towns then existing were Ardglass, Downpatrick, and Strangford ; and the chief castles were those of Narrowwater, Greencastle, Castlereagh, Strangford, Scatterry, Portaferry, and Ardglass. The rugged and barren appearance of the country at this era corresponded with the uncivilised condition of society.

At the same time, we cannot admit the entire justice of the portraiture of Saint Bernard, who depicts the "Irishry" of the time as little better than savages, living, as he alleges, in promiscuous concubinage, rapines, and slaughter. The account of Froude, however, at a later period, is scarcely more favourable, as he enumerates compulsory idleness, drunkenness, fighting, houghing, abductions, rapes, forced marriages, brutal cruelties, and coldblooded murders, as being common crimes, perpetrated

by parties in the rank of gentlemen, and generally passing unpunished. Whilst admitting the not unfrequent commission of the crimes which he enumerates, we do not believe that some of them, at least, were common, nor as a general rule that they passed unpunished.

And it should be remembered that the people were almost entirely engaged in war or the chase, to the exclusion of commerce, agriculture, or any humanising occupation, and it is not therefore to be wondered at, that little advance was made in civilisation, or that a rough and unpolished state of society was long perpetuated, whilst after all, their grossness of habits and manners only resembled that of the inhabitants of many surrounding countries at the time.

It has been also advanced, as a further mark of the rude state of society at remote periods, that it was nothing uncommon even for the clergy, when quarreling, to divest themselves of their gowns, and defending themselves with coats of mail, to settle their disputes by strength of arms. It would not be reasonable, however, to look for great refinement in this class of society, in ages when all around them was uncivilised and barbarous.

A brief review of successive laws, and the alleged grounds on which they were enacted, will throw some additional light on the state of society to which they were considered applicable, and the first to which we shall advert is the celebrated Brehon laws, which laid down rules for the government of the several kingdoms into which the island was then divided, giving minute directions, not only regarding the tenure of land and the rights of property, but even for the regulation of the duties and customs of private life. But in the midst of much that is interesting, and at the time useful, two great defects are apparent in this celebrated code, viz., the exceedingly minute division of the land which it warranted, and its leniency towards capital crimes, as under its provisions the most savage murders could be atoned for by an erc or fine, or, to use the words of Froude, "could be paid for with a cow or a sheep," a condition of things, indicating a state

of society only just beginning to emerge from barbarism ; and the parliamentary enactments to which we shall now refer, will shew that the progress of amelioration was exceedingly slow. These acts, it is true, chiefly referred to residents within the English Pale, and point to a condition of society rude and barbarous enough ; but bad as this was a much worse state of things prevailed amongst the “ Irishry ” outside its confines, to which Down formed no exception, for unceasing feuds, civil wars, robberies, violence, and murder prevailed all over the county, amongst the various septs, in their contest for mastery, and the acquisition of plunder ; and the insecurity of life and property thus occasioned, tended both to retard civilization and the increase of the population. Amongst savage laws, the Head Act as it was termed of Edward the IV. was probably the most barbarous. This atrocious statute rendered it lawful to seize “ any native having no faithful men of good name, clad in English apparel in his company, and to kill him and cut off his head, the cutter off of such head being entitled to levy off every man in the barony, who tilled one ploughland, two pence ; or who had house and goods valued at forty shillings ; and off every cottier having a house and moat, one penny.” Another instance of this cruel kind of legislation occurs in the enactment of Edward the Sixth, to the effect that any common person proved to have lived without work for three days, was made liable to be seared on the breast with a red-hot iron, and to become the slave of his captor ; and any pauper child apprehended at the cost of the parish, if afterwards absconding, became liable to be made a slave. And in one of the statutes of a parliament, which met at Trim in 1447, in the reign of Henry VI. it is set forth “ that the sons of husbandmen and labourers, which in old time were wont to be labourers and travaylers upon the ground as to hold ploughs, to ere the ground, and travayl with all other instruments belonging to husbandry, and do all works honest and lawful according to their state ; and now they will be kearnes, evil doers, waiters, idle men, and destructioners of the king’s ‘ leige ’ people ; ” and it then goes on to provide “ that the sons of labourers and travaillers of

the ground shall use the same labours and travails that their fathers have done," a law so arbitrary as to sound strange in modern ears, and which could only have been tolerated in an age when the people were ignorant and rude in the extreme.

The following is one of the provisions of an act passed by the Parliament assembled at Dublin in the beginning of the fourteenth century :—" It shall be lawful for every liege man to kill or take notorious thieves, and thieves found robbing, spoiling, or breaking houses," and that every man that kills or takes any such thieves shall have one penny of every plough, and one farthing of every cottage within the barony where the manslaughter is done, for every thief." This very cruel and arbitrary law was no doubt considered necessary in that rude age to abate the evil against which it was directed. And in the celebrated statute of Kilkenny passed in 1637, enactments equally arbitrary, but not so bloody were passed, including a prohibition of the use of the Brehon law, of marriage or fosterage on the part of the English, with the people of the Irish nation, and of emigration to another country. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth the following stringent measures, were directed against ill-conditioned people, who are described as being outlaws, and "ancient enemies to the property of the realm." "For remedying this evil it is now ordained that five persons of the best and oldest of every nation of the Irishrie, and in the countries that be not yet shire ground, and till they be shire ground, shall be bound to bring in to be justified by law, all idle persons of their surname, which shall be hereafter charged with any offences, or else satisfied of their own proper goods, the hurts by them committed to the parties grieved, and also such fines as shall be assessed on them for their offences;" an enactment despotic enough truly, but probably necessary at the time to meet the lawless condition of society which then prevailed.

A humorous brochure couched in a barbarous latin, termed Captain Bodley's visit to Lecale in 1602-3, gives us a pretty minute and interesting description of the domestic manners of the time, which certainly were neither delicate nor refined. He commences

thus :—" *Ordo est pulchra res et omnes amant illam praeter milites. Irlandicos, qui sunt pessimum genus hominum, si saltem illos homines, licet appellare, qui vescuntur gramine, et sunt animo vulpes, et factis lupi,*" which may be freely translated. "Order is a beautiful thing, and all approve of it except the Irish soldiers, who are the very worst kind of men, if indeed it be lawful to give the name of men to those who, feeding on grass, are foxes in disposition, and wolves in their acts ;" and further on he adds, "the priests themselves who are holy men, as the Abbot of Armagh and others, and also noblemen, and men and women of every rank pour usquebaugh down their throats, by day and by night, and that not for hilarity only, which would be praiseworthy, but for constant drunkenness, which is detestable ;" but we think that in sketching this highly-coloured picture, the writer must have drawn to a considerable extent on his imagination. This Captain Bodley was the younger brother of the celebrated founder of the Bodleian Library, and at the time of his visit he was serving in the English army, then quartered at Newry.

A statute passed in 1634, intituled an Act for the suppression of coshering and wanderers, affords us an interesting glimpse at the condition of society at the time it was enacted. It proceeds as follows :—"Gentlemen of this kingdom that have little or nothing to live on, and will not apply themselves to labour or other honest industrious courses, but do live idly and inordinately, coshering upon the tenantry, and sessing themselves, their followers, their comrades, and their greyhounds upon the poor inhabitants, and exacting money from them to spare them and their tenants, and to go elsewhere to their aught and edraugh, viz. supper and breakfast, and sometimes craving helps from them ; all which the poor people dare not deny them, and to that end do make cuts, levies, and plotments upon themselves to pay them, to the disabling of the poor inhabitants to pay their duties to the king, and their rents unto their landlords ; and these idle gentlemen and others, being commonly active young men, are apt upon the least occasion of disturbance or insurrection, to rifle and make booty of his Majesty's



loyal subjects, *and to be heads and leaders of outlaws and rebels*, and in the meantime do and must sometimes support their excessive and expenseful drinking and gaming by secret stealths, or growing into debts, oftentimes, filch and stand upon their keeping." The Act then goes on to provide for apprehending and bringing such "cosherers" to justice; and ten years afterwards, at a parliament holden at Naas in 1457, it was ordained "that for as much as the sons of many men from day to day do rob spoil and coynye the kings's poor liege people, and masterfully take their goods without any pity—that every man shall answer for the offence and ill-doing of his son, as he himself that did the trespass and offence ought to do, saving the punishment of death, which shall incur to the trespasser himself." It thus appears that the tone of society in the reign of Charles the First had not much improved since the time of Elizabeth, when it was quaintly described in language very much resembling that contained in the foregoing statute, by the poet Spenser. About the same period a translation of the Ulster Roll of Gaol Delivery between 1613 and 1618, drawn up by the learned Dr. Samuel Ferguson, contains a list of the offences, verdicts, and sentences of the parties put on trial. This interesting document gives a very unfavourable view of the state of society at the time, as the crimes investigated included murder, house robbery, theft, arson, and various other serious offences against the law;\* but the most frequent and numerous charges were for stealing of horses, black cattle, sheep and pigs, and each case of conviction was followed by capital punishment; thus sentence of death was passed on a criminal for stealing at "Foynebrogue," six cocks of hay. The greatest number of cases however ended in acquittal, probably in the proportion of ten to one, a result no doubt partly attributable to the laws being of too sanguinary a nature to be enforced, as the savage punishment in some cases comprised hanging, disembowelling, and dismemberment of the miserable culprits.

\* Ulster Journal of Archaeology. Vol ii. p. 73, and p. 85; 2 op. cet., vol. i. p. 260.

It will, no doubt, be a relief to the reader, to contrast the unfavourable condition of society, which we have been under the necessity of describing, with the more gratifying representation of Harris, at a later period, in which the inhabitants are depicted as "regular in their attendance at public worship, imbued with due regard for the sacredness of an oath, and generally free from the commission of the more serious offences against society." The portraiture of Harris contrasts favourably, too, with that of Arthur Young, who characterised the Irish of his day as more cheerful and lively than the English, but at the same time as being lazy, fond of society, insatiable in their curiosity, hard drinkers, untruthful, and given to the commission of petty thefts; and though quarrelsome, at the same time submissive and obedient. This unfavourable picture, however, refers rather to the southern, than to the northern parts of the island, and as regards the inhabitants of Down, Dubourdieu, who long resided in that county, and knew the people well, describes the middle class of farmers, at the close of the last century, as a respectable body of men in point of understanding and morals, strict in training their children to habits of industry, unexceptionable as tenants, sharp and clever in their dealings, and regular in their attendance at markets and fairs, their usual resort both for business and amusement. It must be admitted that abuse of spirituous liquors, especially on public occasions, is much more common than it ought to be, but the inhabitants generally cannot fairly be represented as being habitually intemperate. O'Donovan, early in the present century, characterises the people of Down as being possessed of much talent, but little application, some mental energy, but no economical calculation, looking more to a change of affairs for an improvement in their condition, than to any exertion of their own in their respective occupations.

Our own observation, however, leads us to the belief, that the inhabitants of Down are surpassed by few other people in kindness of disposition, clearness of intelligence, determination of purpose, honesty and persevering industry, and hence their

material advancement in agricultural and commercial prosperity. And in confirmation of what is here stated, we may refer to the usually light criminal calendar at our assizes and courts of session, and the frequent testimony borne by presiding judges, to the peaceable, sober, and industrious habits of the people. It is sufficient, however, to cite a single instance. In a recent charge to the grand jury at the quarter sessions in Downpatrick, Mr. Johnston, the chairman, distinctly affirmed that no county in either England or Ireland could surpass the County of Down for good order and freedom from crime.

**SURNAMES.**—In early times, individuals were distinguished by a single name, having reference to their residence, occupation, or other circumstances, but the increase of population soon rendered distinctive or fixed names indispensable, though they did not become hereditary until a period ranging between the tenth and twelfth centuries. Surnames now occurring in Down, to which we shall limit our observations, derive their origin variously, as from birds, of which Heron and Sparrow are instances, or from animals, of which Bull, Goate, and Galt are examples. A third class has been deduced from the names of trees, as exemplified in Ash, Alder, Broome, and Birch. The finny tribe has also contributed its quota, of which Geddes (from ged, a pike), Salmon and Herring, are familiar instances. Many took their origin from the different colours, as Green, Gray, White, Black, and Scarlet; or from the analogous Irish, as Bannan from Ban, white; Corcoran from Corcair, ruddy; Dorman from Dorman, brown; Deargan from deargs, red; Gorman from Gorm, blue; and others might be added.

Some surnames are of Irish derivation, but other families bear, with little or no change, the appellations of the places from which they have emigrated. Thus from the shires of Ayr, Wigton, Gallo-way, and Renfrew, in Scotland, come Cathcart, Erskine, Blackhall, Caldwell, Cochran, Kilpatrick, Johnstone, Pollok, Whiteford, Walkinshaw, Barbour, Burns, Bradshaw, Brownley, Burnside, Cairns, Colville, Coulston, Craig, Cunninghame, Currie, Dal-

rymple, Dunlop, Fenton, Fultown, Gill, Girvan, Greenlees, Greenhill, Kelso, Logan, Clugston, Coupar, Sutherland, Underwood, Kirkwood, Allardice, Blackader, Barnet, Carmichael, Silburn, Lyndsay, Muir, Parkhill, Sands, Stanlie, Thornton, Ward, Wardlaw, Woodside, Dunseath, Hume, Hannay, Lennox, Colquhoun, Drummond, Glenney, Ballantyne, Maitland, Semphill, Cockburn, and a host of others. There are also a few of Highland extraction. It has been calculated that the descendants of the Scotch settlers, form perhaps more than one half of the entire population of the county.\*

Many names, now well known in Down, are derived from the names of places in Normandy, instances of which are—Percy, Warren, Devereux, Neville, Tracy, Montford, Montgomery, Seymour (St. Maur), Sinclair, Mowatt, Baliol, Grant, Hay, Fleming, Bruce, Brisset, Charteris, Veitch (de Vesci). Others are traceable to the residence of the parties in particular localities, as Attwood, Atwell, or in abridged forms, as Hill, Dyke, Dale, and Brook.

Amongst the Irish, surnames were occasionally deduced from some mental or corporeal peculiarity, and sometimes from some comical allusion. Thus, King Bryan was called Boroihme, from his exacting an annual tribute known by that appellation, and it was during his reign that family names began to be fixed, and to descend to posterity. The practice, however, only came into use gradually, and in the first instance it was confined to families of distinction. The original prefix of Irish names was Va, which afterwards passed into O, as in O'Brien, and O'Neill, and women had the analogous prefix of Nigh, pronounced Ny; thus Honora Nybrien signified Honora the daughter of Brien, but the prefix was not in use in the time of King Brien, being assumed at a later period. The prefix O marked a descendant in any degree, but Mac, signifying a son, implied a more close relationship. After

\* Lecture of the Rev. Edmund M'Clure before the Field Naturalists' Club in Belfast, 1874.

the murder of William De Burgo, third Earl of Ulster, many of the English fell into the customs of the country, and assumed Irish surnames. For instance, one family took the name of MacWilliam, and were divided into two principal branches, having the affix of Eighter and Oughter, importing respectively the nearer and farther MacWilliam. Another numerous class of names was formed with the affix of the termination "son," as Jackson, Robertson, and Atkinson, or by the assumption of the Christian name simply, as Thomas, Patrick and Henry, and several others.

A considerable number had their origin in various occupations, of which Smith, Gow, Baker, Archer, Leech, and Glover are examples, as well as Chaucer, a shoemaker, and Pilcher, a maker of the overcoats termed Pilches.\*

Foreign languages have contributed materially to our stock of surnames. Thus, of Scandinavian origin, we have the Norse Olaf, and Macauley, MacAuliffe, MacKeavor, and MacIvor, from the original Ivar. Lochlann, which signified Norseman, still survives in Maclochlann, whilst Ragnvald gave rise to Macrannah, or Reynolds, and from Ands comes Uchtred or Outred. Gallaspuche, now Gillespie, is also a deduction from the Norse Ospak, with the prefix of Gill or Golla, which, as well as Mul, signifies a servant, and hence the names of Gilchreest and Mulchreest (the servant of Christ); and Mulchollum, now Mulholland, Malcom, and Gillacollum, severally implying the servants of Calumba. Mulpatrik, Gilpatrick, Mulrea, Gilrea, M'Cabe, and MacSweeny, anglicised Swineson, have a similar origin. The descendants of John Bissett, a Scotchman, called McEoin Bisset, dropped the surname, and the MacKeowns are still numerous both in Antrim and Down.

As examples of deductions from the Welsh, we have Gough from Gogh, Vaughan from Vaghan (little), Gwynne and Wynne

\* See Suffolk Surnames, 3rd Edition, 1861. William Camden's Remains for information on surnames.



from Gwynn (white), and Walwyn, Gawen and Savin. Cordukes comes from the French Cordeaux, and Wood is merely a translation of Dubois.

Bowditch includes Knox, Knocks, or Nock amongst surnames, deduced from fighting, but the true derivation is from Knoc, a district which formed the residence of the original settlers, and so called from knoc, a hill. Another order of names may be traced to changes rendered necessary from the legal prohibition of the original Irish titles within the Pale, when translations or other substitutions became requisite, as exemplified in the following list. Thus, Shannaghs became Foxes; M'Crossan, Crosbie; Ap Rhys, Price; O'Donnell, Daniell; Aprechard, Uprichard and Pritchard; MacCarty, Carter; O'Heraghty, Harrington; Macareavy, Gray; Ap Hugh, Pugh and Hughes; and Ap Owen, Bowen. All the above names, with various others, are prevalent in the county in a greater or less degree. In the list of English names, which came in with the Earl of Essex and De Courcy, we find Savage, White, Biddel, Sandal, Poer, Chamberlane, Stoke, Logan, Passelaw, Russel, Audley, Copland, Martell, Fitzsimon, Crawley, and Benson. To these may be added not a few immigrants of Scotland, including those brought over by Hamilton and Montgomery, amongst whom we may enumerate Ker, Crawford, Maxwell, Kennedy, Douglas, Catherwood, Blackwood, Kelso, Mackay, M'Clure, Henderson, Stewart, Gordon, Heron, M'Cay, and Hilson, and the catalogue, if necessary, might be greatly enlarged.

A further accession to the names prevalent in the county took place on the arrival of the Huguenots, some of whom settled at Waringstown, and others in Lisburn and its vicinity, where previous additions had been made by the earlier Welsh and English immigrants, who replaced the Woodkern. The first included, amongst others, the names of Norris, Date, Batterfield, Kye, Golly (Gawley), Calvert, Morgan, Rose, Averne, Dilworth, Bland, Davis, Cartwright, Richardson, Stanton, Burke, Symonson, Howle, Palmer, Warton, Cabbage, Stothard, Mace, Leech, Walker, Free-

bourne, Gouldsmith, Bones, and Edwards; and the latter the names of Dermane, Mangan, La Valade, De Brethet, Roche, Comiere, Delure, Ledrue, Tremmule, Treufet, Hignet, De Armine, and several others. Many names have disappeared altogether, but a large number still have representatives, including amongst others mentioned elsewhere, Dunville, Goyer, Rene, Bulmer, De Blaquiere, Guillot, Jellett, Dupré, Saurin, Chartres, De Lap, Martin, Drewet, Lascelles, Morrell, Obre, Petticrew, Purdee, Stalliard, Valentine, Perrin, Braithwaite, and Sevine.

Harris says the principal gentlemen here in Queen Elizabeth's time were Sir Nicholas Bagnal, Sir Henry Bagnal, Sir Hugh M'Genis, Sir Owen, Michael Oge, Savage, Fitzsimons, Dowdal, Cormac, O'Neal, Iver, Roe, M'Genis, Bryan, Orten, O'Neal, John White of the Dufferin, M'Cartune, the Bensons, Rupells, Jordans, Audleys, and Mandevilles. He adds these families were for the most part extinguished by civil wars, rebellion and the course of nature; and that the chief names in the country at the time he wrote were Savage, Southwell, Rawdon, Hill, Magill, Ward, Needham, Waring, Maxwell, Price, Montgomery, Echlin, Stephenson, Bayley, West, Ross, Hamilton, Isaack, Blackwood, Ford, Fortescue, Kennedy, Matthews, Hall, Wallace, Johnson, Close, Lambert, Bateman, Douglas, Hunter, Wilson, and Reilly, most of whom have still living representatives in the present day. To this list may be added the following, who had, prior to that time, or subsequently established themselves in the county, Hill, Kelso, Knox, Ward, Bateson, Peacocke, Greg, Ker, Hastings, Bisset, St. Leger, Cullen, Mulholland, M'Cormack, Houston, Delacherois, Crommelin, Mackay, Andrews, Harvey, M'Clure, Henderson, Chamberlain, Ruthven, O'Laver, Trotter, Stewart, (Marquis of Londonderry), Stanton, Stokes, Crollys, Crawford, Sempill, Gordon, Forde, Johnston, Martin, Cuppage, Heron, Logan, Hamilton, Craig (Lawrie), Nugent, Echlin, Barnaby, Waddell, Patterson, Waring, Brush, Richardson, Trevor (Lord Dungannon), Stacpoole, Lascelles, Sandals, Poer, Roden, Walmesley, Maguire, Moore, Chesney, Bole, M'Cay, Leslie, M'Minn,

Allen, Dunbar, Nicholson, M'Culloch, Filson, Mayhanke, Wallace, Warnock, Cart, Gracey, and Murland. There would be no great difficulty in enlarging the list so as to exhibit a pretty complete catalogue of the entire surnames, met with in the county, from the electoral roll and other sources, if there were any advantage in undertaking the task. Many, in addition to those above recorded, may be found in an article contributed to the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, by the Reverend Canon Hume, and in a paper read before the Belfast Nationalists Field Club, by the Reverend Edmund M'Clure.

Amongst the nobility and men of note rated to the subsidy in 1615 by Sir Arthur Chichester, we find the names of the Earl of Kildare, and of Russell, Smith, White, Jordan and Bagnal, connected with the County of Down.\* Amongst the families in Lecale of Anglo-Norman descent, the Denvirs (originally Danvers), and anciently spelled Denvers, are of old standing. Other families in the same Barony are the Starkeys, who were purely English, coming probably from Cheshire, and the Blaneys, Clintons, Curoes, Dowdals, Fitzsimons, and M'Cumeskys (Maccummuscugh) of Pictish origin. The Dowdals sold their estates in Lecale, so early as the reign of Charles I., and the Audleys disposed of part of their property to the Wards in 1643, and the remainder about the beginning of the 18th century. The possessions of the Fitzsimons also have long passed into other hands. The Jordans likewise were extensive proprietors, and there are still a number of residents in the county of that name, but none in any prominent position, although no doubt descendants of the same stock. The family of Crollly had once an estate in the county comprising a number of townlands, one of which was Ballykilbeg, the residence of the present Mr. Johnston, M.P. for Belfast. The late titular Primate Crollly, and the eloquent divine, poet, and essayist, Dr. Croly, of London, were both descendants of this family.

The Crolllys according to tradition were Barons of Swords, and

\* Payne's Survey of Ulster, and Extract from the Clogher MSS., p. 492.

the head of the family, at the close of the last century was styled Crolly. The name of Russell, a family of very ancient lineage, connected with Killough, was descended from a cadet of the House of Russell, of Kingston, and afterward of Woburn, in England, who accompanied John De Courcy to Ireland.

The following list of the members of an Inquisition, taken at Ardquin in 1605, may have some interest as making us acquainted with the leading men of the district at that time :—

John White, Lord of the Dufferin, Esq.  
 Christopher Russell of Bright, Esq.  
 James Dowdall of Strangford, gent.  
 George Russell of Rathmullin, gent.  
 John Russell of Killough, gent.  
 James Stackpoole of Ardglass, gent.  
 Simon Jordan of Ardglass, gent.  
 Robert Sword or Swoordes, *alias* Crooley of Ballidonnell, gent.  
 William Meriman of Ballynabregagh, gent.  
 Gillernow Oroney of Srow, gent.  
 Patrick Russell of St. John's Point, gent.  
 Robert Hadsor of Cullevaile, gent.  
 Owen M'Rorie of Down, gent.  
 Simpkin Fitzwilliam of Grane, gent, and  
 Redmond Savage of Saul, gent.

It will be observed that in this and other inquisitions, the addition to the names is in some cases esquire, and in others gentleman, but to prevent misconception as to the relative rank thereby indicated, we insert the following remarks taken from Burke's *History of the Landed Gentry* :—

“ Esquire and gentleman implied different ranks, and were never confounded together, although evidently belonging to the same grade of society. According to the original meaning of the terms, gentleman denoted a rank derived from birth, and esquire that derived from official position, certain offices being held to confer the later title on persons who might not necessarily be gentlemen.

A gentleman by blood is superior to an esquire, while an esquire by office might hold a rank above that of a gentleman. In the original sense of the term an esquire was the shield bearer to a knight. But time has wrought such confusion, that it is difficult at the present time to say whether gentleman or esquire be the more honorable title, as the latter is now conferred on every man not actually standing behind the counter of a shop," and sometimes even in that case also.

Dean Swift says the descendants of the ancient Irish aristocracy are to be looked for amongst the artisans and labourers, whilst the predecessors of some of the English families of the highest rank filled the position of saddlers, lorimers, and other handicraftsmen in the army of William the Conqueror, and still bear the names deduced from their original occupations, which gave them a higher social position than at present. On the landing of Schomberg in 1688, many of the partisans of King James the Second moved from Lecale into Connaught, and their places were supplied by English families brought from the Ards, among whom we find the names of Hunter, Swaile, Porter, Jennings, Moore, Neill, Nesbit, Cochran, Coates, Quoile or Quail, and Elsinor, (now Nelson), all still to be met with in the districts into which they were then transplanted. Of the long roll of names to which we have above adverted, the great majority are still to be found in the County of Down, yet strange to say, of all the individuals set down in Cromwell's rental and tithe book, representatives of only about eight now remain. The prevalent county names have been set down as about eight hundred by Canon Hume, in a paper read before the British Association in 1874, but they may probably reach one thousand, as there are no doubt many not entitled to the franchise, who do not appear on the electoral lists, from which I presume he principally derived his information.

The comparative numbers bearing a particular name, whatever importance may be attached to the circumstance, were carefully calculated by Dr. Hume at the time he wrote his paper for the



Ulster Journal of Archæology, and he sets them down as occurring in frequency, in the following order :—Smith, Martin, M'Kee, Moore, Brown, Thomson, Patterson, Johnson, Stewart, Wilson, Graham, Campbell, Robinson, Bell, Hamilton, Morrow, Gibson, Boyd, Wallace, Magee ; and the next twenty in the order of their frequency are Scott, Murray, M'Cullough, Orr, Graham, Anderson, Russell, Hanna, Murphy, Fitzsimons, Ferguson, Heron, Reid, M'Donnell, O'Hare, Jamieson, Kerr, Sloane, Carson and Crawford.

However, from intermarriages, migrations, and other causes, their distribution over the county has now become promiscuous, some names being found in all parts of the county, and few altogether limited to the particular districts in which they were formerly prevalent. At the same time we may state, that the name of Annett is rarely met with except in Mourne, and that of Press, outside of Lecale. The Fitzsimons and the Blanes are mostly confined as well as the M'Keatings to the same barony, and the Ards, as the Carses are to the parish of Killinchy. The MacIlwaines also abound in Kinelarty ; the Morrows in Killyleagh ; Magennis and M'Artane, both of Irish extraction, are still frequent in Iveagh, and the name of Bagnall is not yet extinct in the vicinity of Newry. Savages and Whites are numerous in the Ards, Orrs in Castlereagh, Thomsons in Kinelarty, and Martins, and Erving or Irwins in Lower Iveagh.

The descendants of the colonists of the 17th century form a majority of the population, the Scotch names, such as Hamilton, Dunbar, Wallace, and Stuart, predominating in the Ards, and Castlereagh, which are principally occupied by the Scotch who came into Down by Bangor and Donaghadee, whilst British names, such as Green, Turner, Brown, and Benson, are more prevalent about Newry, Inch, Downpatrick, and Lecale, and more especially in that tract of country extending from Carrickfergus to Lisburn, Lambeg, Kilwarlin, Moira, and on to the verge of the county, localities in which the English principally established themselves under the guidance of Sir Arthur Chichester, Sir Fulke Conway,

Sir John Rawdon, Alderman Hawkins, and John Magill.\* According to the minute researches of Mr. Hanna, nearly one-half of the population of the Barony of Lecale is of Anglo-Norman descent, a proportion much exceeding that in the other districts in which the descendants of English settlers are still to be found.

The native Irish, bearing the names of O'Reilly, O'Hara, M'Gowan, and others, still maintain their ground in the southern parts of the county, especially about the mountains and the kingdom of Mourne, but they probably do not exceed twelve per cent. of the population. A number are commemorated in the names of particular places, as Seaforde, Mount Stewart, Hill-hall, Reilly's Trench, Waringstown, Hillsborough; or by using the word Bally (a town) as a prefix, exemplified in Ballyrussell, and Ballyadam. Other examples are Ballycopeland, Ballyward, Ballywalter, Russell's Quarter, Jordan's Crew, Hilltown, Echlinville, Gillford, and Gillhall, a list which might be extended almost indefinitely. Of the numerous surnames some are written and pronounced variously, thus we have Rabb for Robb, Sevens for Sefton, Burns for Byrne, and Grimes for Graham. A very common corruption of names amongst the lower classes, is the affixing an *S* to the correct appellation, instances of which are found in Laws, Hopes, and Dodds. On the other hand, the proper prefix Mac is omitted in the names of Crory, Connell, Neill, Mullan, and several others. Names are also frequently altered by abbreviations, instances of which are Stienison for Stevenson, Titterton for Titterington, and Greer, for Macgregor. Some correctly written are pronounced corruptly, as MacElshender for Alexander, and Kimmins for Cumming. Mickie and Muckle are merely Scotch forms of Mulch or Mudge. Edgar is frequently both spelt and pronounced as Agar or Eagar.

#### LANGUAGE AND DIALECT.

According to Sir William Temple, the Celtic or Gaelic dialect,

\* See Dr. Hume's Paper, read at the meeting of the British Association in 1874.

anciently used by the Irish, is the most original and unmixed language now remaining in any part of Europe, although slightly corrupted by Latin and Scandinavian words borrowed from successive colonists. The knowledge of it has, however, been gradually fading away. Harris says that even in his day it was, in a manner, banished from amongst the common people, and could only be heard amongst the lower classes of Roman Catholics, and still further, that it was gradually diminishing, owing to the desire which existed amongst the people to have their children taught the English language in the Charter, or other Protestant Schools, to which they, at that time, willingly sent them for instruction. We consequently look on the statement of Anderson,\* that out of 325,410 inhabitants, about 93,000 in 1830 could speak the language in question, as much exaggerated. In the last census two individuals alone are returned as speaking Irish exclusively, although it is understood by many, especially in the hill country of Mourne and Iveagh, in common with English, which is now in universal use all over the county, varying, however, considerably both in intonation and dialect in different districts, a result depending partly on an admixture of the ancient Irish and the Scottish idiom, and partly on the lingering remains of the patois of Yorkshire, Cumberland, and Westmoreland, from whence many words and phrases have been imported. In a few places the peculiarity of dialect is so remarkable as to constitute a shibboleth, by which the residents in different parts of the county may be easily distinguished by close observers. Amongst the higher classes the language and accent differ little from those of the gentry in other parts of the kingdom, being especially free from cockneyisms. The Scottish idiom is most observable in the baronies of Ards and Castlereagh, and their confines, although extending as far as Hillsborough and Dromore. Until recently it was spoken as broadly as in Ayr or Wigtonshire, but it is gradually dying out, although innumerable words imported from Scotland are in daily use in the northern part of the county, whilst in the southern and mountainous parts, a strong dash of

\* Historical Sketches of the Native Irish, by Christopher Anderson. 1830.

that very peculiar intonation, denominated the Irish brogue, is observable. Traces of the English modes of expression still linger in the districts peopled by British settlers. The language of the common people abounds in provincialisms, but we can only make room for a few specimens, although they are numerous enough to fill many pages :—

Ay, for yes.

A for I, as a say, a did, for I say, I did.

Brash, an attack of sickness.

Brattle, a peal of thunder.

Camp, to contest who shall finish a task first.

Corned, for powdered or pickled, as corned beef or pork.

Clod, for throw, as to clod stones.

Chop, in constant use for chap.

Decent, for respectable.

Colcannon, a kind of mixed vegetable food ; in Welsh cawlccenin.

Drawky, damp or wet, as a drawky day.

Donsy, weak, sickly.

Early hearts, mature early cabbage.

Favour, to resemble, as that person favours you very much.

Jundy, to shake.

Income, an abscess.

Moily, a cow without horns, a pollard, or the doddy of North-  
umberland.

Mizzle, a slight misty rain.

Mind, in very general use for recollect, as I don't mind, for I  
don't recollect.

Newance, for novelty.

Ornary, for plain in appearance.

Sup, very commonly used for eat, as to sup broth or porridge.

She and her, in place of it, applied to a clock, or watch, &c., as  
she goes well.

Stripper, a cow not in calf.

Threep, to persist doggedly in an assertion.

Think long, to express mental uneasiness in absence, as "I

thought long." This, however has classical authority for its use in *Romeo and Juliet*.

Whitrett, a weasel.

When, a moderate quantity, as a wheen of potatoes.

Champ, food compounded of potatoes, butter, and beans, or other vegetable, the "Rumbledethump" of Hogg, so humorously described in the *Noctes Ambrosianæ*.

Springer, a cow nearly at her calving.

Shear, for reap, as to shear wheat or barley.

The proverbs in use are very numerous, and enter largely into the familiar conversation of the people, but I am not aware that there are any peculiar to the county. The following may be taken as specimens, and an extensive list of them may be found in the sixth and seventh volumes of the *Ulster Journal of Archæology* :—

There is no fool worse than an old fool.

There is no knowing a man without living in the same house with him.

Every man draws the water to his own mill.

When drink is in, sense is out.

Do not show your teeth, when you cannot bite.

#### EDUCATION.

Education has made rapid progress since 1821, at which time the number of young persons receiving instruction in the diocese of Down and Dromore were 951, whilst in 1824 they had increased to 14,111, and in 1834 to 36,446, still there is a great deficiency in this respect, although a considerable advance has been made in the last ten years. Various schools, during the present and preceding centuries, have been founded for the promotion of education, comprising the Charter Schools, founded by Sir Erasmus Smith, the Endowed Schools, the Church Education Society, in 1839, the Kildare-street Society, and the National Board, and the Schools of the Sunday School Society for Ireland, and other Sunday Schools, in addition to various private seminaries. There was one diocesan School, situated near Down, but it has never suc-



ceeded in attracting numerous pupils, and latterly it has been relinquished altogether. The Charter of Erasmus Smith's Schools was signed in 1669, and the Parochial School, at Seaforde, was built from funds supplied by the governors of that body. One School on this foundation was built in the County of Down, near Strangford, on the property of Lord de Ros, but not having, like many of the others, answered the purpose for which it was founded, it has long been given up, and the building diverted to other purposes.

The Kildare Street Society had, at first, Parliamentary support, but the grant was withdrawn in 1830, and in 1854 the Dublin Model Schools of the Society were put under the management of the Church Education Society. The Sunday School Society was founded in 1809, the Church Education Society, supported by voluntary contributions, in 1839, and the National Board in 1831. All the schools in the County of Down, private institutions excepted, are under the charge of one or other of these societies, and they have been established pretty generally over the county; but there is a want of superior schools of the better classes.

In Newry there is a ragged school for the education of neglected children, in which upwards of one hundred pupils are instructed in the Scriptures, and in reading, writing, arithmetic, and singing, by a hired master, and the girls are taught sewing by ladies, who devote an hour to that purpose daily. Schools have also been established in all the workhouses, and there are also a number of infant schools in the different towns in the county.

In the reign of Queen Elizabeth an act was passed which had for its object the establishment of schools in every diocese in Ireland, to "obviate the ignorance of due and humble obedience from the people to their princes and rulers, proceeding from lack of good bringing up of the youth of the realm, either in public or private schools, where they might be brought to avoid those loathsome and horrible errors." The support of these schools was imposed as a duty on the clergymen of the Established Church, and the school buildings were required to be erected in the principal shire towns. In this county one of these schools

was erected at Downpatrick, and another at Dromore. The object was laudable, but we are unable to perceive the reasonableness of imposing their support solely on the clergy, at that time in no position to bear the exaction. At a later date, according to the last census, schools are available in every district, including twenty of a superior grade, sixty endowed or private seminaries, and three hundred and sixty national schools, having an attendance of twenty-five thousand pupils.

The Church Education Society, Parochial, and Irish Mission Schools are ninety-nine, having rather more than four thousand six hundred pupils, whilst above nine hundred scholars are in attendance at the Christian Brothers' and Convent schools.

Notwithstanding these facilities, education is not so far advanced as might have been anticipated, for out of the entire population, about eighty-four thousand, including children, are altogether illiterate. About a hundred and fifty thousand, only one half of the inhabitants, can read and write, and there are sixty thousand more who can read only. The illiterate are composed of 17.3 per cent. of Episcopalians, 9.3 per cent. of Presbyterians, 7.3 per cent. of Methodists, and 33.4 per cent. of the Roman Catholics.

The census further shows, that 36 per cent. of the total population of Downpatrick were illiterate, while in Newtownards 27 per cent. were in the same condition. The proportion per cent. of the population of Downpatrick from five years old and upwards illiterate was 20; in Newtownards, 12.7. The best educated parish in the county was Kilmoody, 6.9 only being illiterate. In Kilbroney, the illiterates were 34.6 per cent. We find that 10.85 per cent. of the Roman Catholics were receiving instruction in primary and superior schools, 12.46 per cent. of Protestant Episcopalians, and 13.01 per cent. of Presbyterians. The contrast with 1861 is very favourable, the total number receiving instruction being 8.66 per cent. in that year, and in 1871, 12.20. Of the total population of the county, 149,353 could read and write, 60,251 could read only, and 83,845 (including children

and infants) were entirely illiterate. In 1871, 347 persons could speak English and Irish, against 763 in 1861, and two persons are returned as being unable to speak any other language than Irish. There are 527 primary educational establishments, of which 360 belonged to the National System, 97 to the Church Education Society, and 4 to the Christian Brothers; whilst the superior schools, of which 18 are private, numbered 20 in all.

The issue of newspapers has greatly increased, and their use is general since the great reduction in their price. Those in most extensive circulation throughout the county are, the *Belfast News-Letter*, the *Northern Whig*, the *Morning News*, the *Weekly News*, the *Weekly Whig*, the *Ulster Examiner*, and the *Ulster Observer*, all published in Belfast. The local papers are, the *Newry Commercial Telegraph*, the *Newry Reporter*, the *Downpatrick Recorder*, the *Banbridge Chronicle*, and the *Newtownards Independent*. In addition to these, the *Evening Mail*, the *Express*, and the *Irish Times*, published in Dublin, with a few of the English papers, circulate more or less, as well as the *Evening Telegraph* and the *Echo*, halfpenny papers, both published in Belfast. There are also public newsrooms in the towns of Newry and Downpatrick, so that the opportunities of acquiring general information are extensively diffused. A Parliamentary Debating Society holds its meetings in Belfast, but some of its members are resident in the County of Down.

Societies both of a religious and political character have numerous adherents, and amongst them we may enumerate the Orangemen and Freemasons, the Good Templars, the True Blue Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, at Newry; the Banks of Bann Independent Order of Rechabites, and the Tent Paths of Peace Lodge, at Banbridge. These last are similar to the original temperance societies, which professed to practice temperance but not abstinence, as they were permitted to drink wine; whilst the Rechabites, like the members of the total abstinence society, refrained altogether from the use of all liquors, whether spirituous or vinous. One object of both the Rechabites

and Oddfellows is to relieve the members and their wives when in sickness and distress, and to defray the expense of funerals. The Ulster Institution for Promoting the Education of the Deaf and Dumb in secular instruction, and in the religious principles of the Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches, is situated in Antrim, but receives inmates from the County of Down, in which it has many influential supporters, as well as in other parts of the province.

At Beers Bridge, in Ballymacarrett, there is an Intellectual Improvement Society, which has been in operation since 1848, its object being to extend Sunday and evening schools, and to promote the interests of religion. A free library and music class are open to the residents in the vicinity, and lectures are occasionally delivered there. In Newry there is a Church of Ireland Young Men's Society, which is devoted to literary and musical purposes, as well as a Roman Catholic institution established for similar objects. Indeed, in most of the towns of any extent, Bands of Hope associations have been formed for the promotion of religious and general knowledge.

There is not any social club in the County of Down, but many of its residents are members of those established in Belfast, the principal of which are the Ulster, the Union, and the Northern Clubs.

LOCAL CUSTOMS.—Amongst the lower classes of society, various local customs and superstitions still exist, although great advances in intelligence have taken place. A belief in witches, fairies and banshees, still lingers, and money is occasionally extorted from the more simple for "freets" or charms to cure distempers in cattle, and even diseases in the human frame. Old crones, skilful in what is termed "tossing the cups," an art of divination, which consists in foretelling events, especially those connected with dreams, marriages, good harvests, or stolen cattle and goods, by a careful inspection of the figures represented by the dregs in the bottom of the teacup, have frequent applicants for a view into futurity. Occasional reports in the newspapers disclose an

astonishing amount of credulity on the part of the willing dupes of these impostors, who, on legal conviction, are severely punished.

The belief in fairies, of whom the "Brownies" constitute a branch, and their powers over the human race, for good or evil, is strong and very general. Hence it is, that many otherwise sensible people, will not cut down an aged thorn, for fear of incurring the vengeance of these "green-robed spirits of the mountains," and the same feelings have prevented or delayed the levelling of many of the forts or raths abounding in the country, as they are believed to be specially inhabited by these freakish imaginary beings.\*

The practice of witchcraft in the early Anglo-Saxon times was in the hands of persons of the highest rank and position, as instances of which we may mention the Duchess of Gloucester, Joan of Arc, and Jane Shore, but it afterwards descended into lower hands, till in the end of the seventeenth century it was exclusively confined to the old, infirm and decrepid, gradually at length disappearing with the advance of enlightenment, but even yet, a latent belief in the art finds a place in many a breast.

The observation of Christmas Day as a festival is general in all parts of the country, and Easter Monday also is universally regarded as a holiday, on which cock-fighting, now nearly extinct, was practised in all directions. Amongst other customs, we must not pass by the Irish wake, once a place of general resort, where neighbours and relatives of a deceased person sat up during the night, as a token of their respect. The time was passed in smoking and drinking, which often degenerated into revelry and debauchery, very unsuitable to the occasion. Attendance on wakes, however, is now quite on the wane, among the more respectable classes, and gradually declining even amongst the lower orders. A marked improvement is also observable of late years in the mode of conducting funerals, as it has ceased to be

\* See Brand's *Popular Antiquities*; Percy's *Reliques of Ancient English Poetry*; Sir Walter Scott's *Essay on Fairy Superstition*; and Keightley's *Fairy Mythology*.



the general custom to serve out cakes, wine, and spirituous liquors, to the large concourse of people assembled to accompany the coffin to the grave. The distribution of black gloves, and hat-bands and scarves of fine linen, on such occasions, is also gradually declining, a change decidedly for the better, as expenses were oftentimes thus incurred, by no means suitable to the circumstances of the parties. The practice of wearing a sprig of sham-rock on Patrick's Day is still very prevalent amongst all classes, but difference of opinion exists as to the species of plant correctly bearing this appellation. We believe it should properly be applied to the three-leaved clover which grows indigenously all over the island, and neither to the four-leaved species, which is found only in particular districts, nor to the wood-sorrel, as argued by Mr. Bicheno.

Amongst other lingering superstitions, we may mention the harmless custom of placing twigs of the mountain ash, or rowan tree, at the doors and windows on May eve, as a security against witches for the ensuing year. It is also believed, that if sprigs of yarrow be placed with due ceremony, under the pillow, at the same witching season, the result will be an agreeable dream of the future partner for life; and if the blossoms of the Mayflower (*caltha palustris*,) be strewed around the dwelling-house on May eve, all harm to the inmates will be thereby averted for the coming year.

AMUSEMENTS.—The amusements common in the County of Down correspond, pretty nearly, with those in other parts of the kingdom. The Scottish games of curling and goff are, however, unknown here, but cricket, not very long introduced, has come into general favour, and cricket clubs have been established all over the country. Fives, or handball, is everywhere a favourite pastime, but racket courts are to be found only in the principal towns.

Hurling or cammon, the shinty of Scotland, and hockey of England, are universally practised, and the same may be said of quoits and putting the stone, both good muscular exercises. The

latter may be considered analogous to throwing the hammer in Scotland.

Trap-ball, I believe, is not known here, and the same may be said of bowls.

Rifle-shooting is becoming more general, one of its principal supporters in this county being the Earl of Dufferin, on whose demesne the Rifle Club have had frequent well-contested matches. There are very good military rifle ranges near Newtownards and in Ballymacarret. The Ulster Rifle Association, under the presidency of Lord Dufferin, is one of the oldest in Ireland, being originated about the year 1829. The association has a very fine range of 1,600 yards long, on the Kinnegar, at Holywood. During the season, from May to November, there are numerous prize meetings, especially the Clandeboye Open Meeting, which attracts rifle shots from all parts of the country.

The game of bullets, being played on the public roads, was found dangerous, and although in high favour amongst the labouring population, it has been almost entirely suppressed. The game consisted in throwing from the hand an iron ball of about two pounds in weight, and of the two parties, they were declared victors who, by alternate and repeated throws, first drove it to the appointed goal.

Football is gradually coming into favour, and a North of Ireland Football Club has been recently established in Belfast, many of the members, however, being resident in Down.

**YACHTING.**—A taste for yachting has greatly increased of late years, and regattas are held annually at Belfast, Bangor, Portaferry, Strangford, Ardglass, Warrenpoint, and Killyleagh, at which prizes are contested for, both in sailing and pulling. At the latter place boat races, in which the oars are plied by women, affords much amusement. The Royal Ulster Yacht Club has several members in the County of Down, and amongst the principal supporters of yachting, we find the names of the late and present Lord de Ros, Lords Dufferin, Bangor, and Newry, Mr. John Mulholland, M.P. Mr. Daniel Delacherois, and a few others.

There is a Rowing Club at Newry, and another at Holywood.

ANGLING.—Angling is not a prevalent sport, the rivers not being favourable for the purpose, and the fish scarce, many being destroyed by the water coming from the flax pools. The only streams of any great importance are the Bann, Lagan, and Ballynahinch rivers. The fish are taken with bait, either by the rod or night lines, fly fishing being little practised. Salmon were once very abundant in the Lagan, though now rarely met with in that river, but they are occasionally taken in the Shimna near New-castle. The most common fresh water fish are the trout, pike, eel, and perch, which are abundant enough in the canals, landloughs, and streams of the county.

Sea fishing with bait or the net, on certain parts of the coast, is followed with some eagerness as an amusement ; herrings and mackerel especially being the objects of pursuit.

BOXING. Prize fighting has never made its way into Ireland, and a knowledge of scientific boxing among the population is rare, whilst boxing matches, though there is no lack of courage, are of less frequent occurrence than formerly. Neither has wrestling, an athletic sport, so much in favour in Devon, Cornwall, and other parts of England, ever become popular here.

COCK-FIGHTING was once very prevalent, the birds being of a superior description. It was principally confined to the lower classes of the people with whom it was a favourite amusement, but partly from a change of taste, and partly from the strictness with which the laws made for its suppression are enforced, it is now very rarely practised.

BULL-BAITING was never a recognised or favourite sport in this part of the country.

COURSING is not very general, as some parts of the county are not well adapted to this description of sport, although many excellent dogs are kept by the gentry. In the adjoining County of Armagh a very fine stud of greyhounds was formerly kept up by Lord Lurgan. Amongst the most celebrated of his dogs was Master M'Grath, who came off victor in many a hard contested match, both in this

country and in England ; having twice carried off the Waterloo Cup, the Blue Riband of the Course, and was scarcely to be equalled by any dog of his day.

A dog show has lately been organised in the county, and at a recent exhibition in Newtownards, many animals, both of this and other breeds, were strongly commended.

**HUNTING.** A taste for hunting still exists in some districts, but it has much declined from its palmy state in past days. There are no fox or staghounds in the county, but there are several packs of harriers, including those of the Ards, Lecale, Iveagh, Killyleagh, Newry, and Clanrye. The Dufferin Hunt is well known.

There are many good horses, but hard riding has been latterly on the decline.

One of the most ancient hunting clubs is the Down Hunt, which has been in existence for more than a century, and included at all times the elite of the county gentry. As a hunting club, however, it has somewhat fallen off ; as the meetings, which take place at Downpatrick, are now held as much for the promotion of friendly and convivial intercourse, as for hunting—the members dining together during their assembly.

It may not be uninteresting to subjoin a list of the original and earlier members of this old association, as some of them have no longer any representatives in the county.

List of Members of the Down Hunt, October 30th, 1757, and subsequently up to 1772.

Matthew Forde, the younger.

Francis Price.

Thomas Knox, the younger

Robert Lambert Tate.

John Gordon, the younger.

John Echlin.

John Matthews.

Roger Hall.

James Bailie.

George Hoskisson.

William Mortimer.

John Rowan.

Arthur Johnston.

Robert Gillespie.

Doctor Mosson Wye.

John Blackwood.

Reverend B. Bayly.

Patrick West.

Reverend John Ryder.

James Stevenson.

Bernard Ward.

John Darnell.

George Hamilton, the younger.

William Hamilton.

John Bailie.

Captain John Knox.

James Leslie.  
 Arthur Trench.  
 Townly Blackwood.  
 Captain Isaac Hamilton.  
 Reverend Stewart Blacker.  
 Captain Charles Matthews.  
 Captain Oliver White.  
 Charles Savage of Ardchin, Esq.  
 Sir John Meade, Baronet.  
 John Kennedy.  
 Alexander Stewart, the younger.  
 James Montgomery, Esq.  
 James Waddell.  
 William Blacker.  
 Thomas Dawson.  
 William Wallace.  
 Armar Lowry Corry.  
 Charles Coplett.  
 John Maxwell.  
 William Dunken.  
 Alexander M'Cauley.  
 The Honourable Marcus Annesley.  
 Hugh Montgomery.  
 Reverend James Hamilton Clewloe.  
 William Blacker.  
 Merydith Wakeman.  
 John Corry.  
 Henry Waring.  
 Thomas Pottinger.  
 James Aynsworth.  
 Richard Harrison.  
 John Ford.  
 Robert Hamilton.  
 Francis Savage.  
 Bernard Brett.  
 Richard Cunningham.  
 Hans Fairly.  
 Patrick Savage.  
 John Dailey.  
 Captain Price.  
 Simon Isaacs.  
 Matthew Bailie.  
 Coss Stothard.  
 Francis Turnley.  
 Robert Stewart.  
 William Montgomery.  
 George Vaughan.

John Boyd.  
 Theophilus Bolton.  
 Michael Obins.  
 John Magill.  
 James Wilson.  
 Andrew Savage.  
 Honorable Francis Annesley.  
 Richard Magennis, Esq.  
 Charles Echlin.  
 Captain Hugh Montgomery.  
 Coslet Stothard, jun.  
 Alexander Boyd, Esq.  
 John Reilly.  
 Edward Savage.  
 W. Matthews.  
 Hon. and Reverend William Annesley.  
 James Davason.  
 Charles Davason.  
 St. Lawrence Boyd.  
 Robert Morris Jones.  
 Earl of Moira.  
 Charles Echlin, Esq.  
 Robert Echlin.  
 Thomas Fortescue.  
 The Reverend Robert George.  
 Gawn Hamilton, Esq.  
 Thomas Trotter.  
 Hamilton Gage.  
 Thomas Corry.  
 William Richardson.  
 Ponsonby Boyd.  
 Francis Lucas,  
     Admitted in 1772.  
 John Crawford.  
 Arthur Atcheson,  
     Admitted October, 1772.  
 Lord Dunluce.  
 Cromwell Price.  
 Reverend Ralph Ward.  
 David Ker.  
 Robert Blackwood.  
 Nicholas Price.  
 William Waring.  
 Matthew Forde, jun.  
 William Gillespie.  
 Hill Wilson.



RACING.—The taste for steeple chasing has considerably increased of late years, and races take place annually in the vicinity of Downpatrick, Bangor, and Donaghadee, and attract very large crowds of people.

Horse racing was also a favourite amusement, and many good horses have been reared in the county, but it is now considerably on the wane. The race courses, once numerous, including those at Comber, Rathfriland, Downpatrick, and the Maze, have all been gradually abandoned except the last-named excellent turf, where meetings are held annually, in July and October, but for shorter periods than formerly. They are however still well attended.

SHOOTING.—The principal objects of this sport, in the county, are rabbits, partridges, quails, snipe, pheasants, woodcocks, and wild fowl, which abound on the Loughs of Strangford and Belfast, more especially barnacle, widgeon, wild duck, and curlews. Rabbits are plentiful, but the increase of drainage has made snipe scarce in many districts. In several of the demesnes of the nobility and gentry, pheasants are abundant, but grouse are only met with in a few places on the Slieve, Croob, and Mourne mountains; and black game is unknown. Partridges are also scarce. Woodcocks, in suitable covers, are plentiful, as at Mount Stewart, Castleward, Hillsborough Park, Seaforde, Montalto, Mourne Park, and some other localities. The barbarous sport of Pigeon shooting, greatly to the credit of the inhabitants, is only of rare occurrence.

Croquet is pretty general, but seems rather declining in estimation, whilst Archery of late has risen into favour, two associations having been formed in the county for its practice, one The Royal Downshire Archers, in the northern part of the county, and the other in the vicinity of Kilkeel, where the prizes for the highest score, the best gold, and the greatest number of hits are eagerly and skilfully contended for, both by ladies and gentlemen.

Of recent date, associations have been formed in several towns for the encouragement and practice of Athletic Sports, including walking, running, jumping, and putting the stone or weight. The contests are eagerly engaged in, and attract numerous spectators,

the victors being rewarded with prizes sometimes of considerable value. This kind of amusement, novel in this part of the country, may not be without use, but the great stress on the muscular system, necessarily incidental to it, is not without risk, and may be productive of serious injury, in constitutions not sufficiently robust and hardy to bear the strain of training, and the severe contests which follow.

The indoor amusements are the same here as in other places, including dancing, billiards, bagatelle, chess, cards. Cardplaying has, however, much decreased within the last half century, and gambling, it is creditable to know, is very rare.

It was alleged by Arthur Young in his day that dancing was so universal among the Irish people, that there were everywhere itinerant dancing masters, to whom even the cotters paid sixpence a quarter for teaching their families. The taste for this amusement has however decreased, not only amongst the class referred to, but in the better ranks of society also, as neither balls nor dancing parties are so frequent as formerly.

The beautiful game of billiards, which passed from Italy to France, and thence to these countries, has within the last quarter of a century greatly advanced in public favour, and there are now scarcely any mansions of respectability, in which the billiard room has not its place.

MUSIC.—I am not aware that there is any music peculiar to the county, but there is not by any means an absence of musical taste, or of competent vocal and instrumental performers. The concerts given in Belfast, Newry or Downpatrick, are well attended, and there was more than one musical society in Belfast, now I believe amalgamated as the Belfast Philharmonic Society, (under the presidency of Mr. Robert Ward, of Bangor Castle), which receives material support from the residents in the County of Down. There is a harmonic society in Banbridge, and others of a similar character in Newry and Downpatrick. That the taste for music is increasing, is shown by the formation of instrumental bands in all the principal towns throughout the county.

Amongst the humbler classes, the lay of the wandering ballad singer, or the notes of the strolling violinist, seldom fail to charm forth the mite of the listeners.

Many well-known ballads, as "Sir Hugh of Lincoln," "Lord Willoughby," "Chevy Chase," "The Cruiskeen Lawn," "Lady Margaret," "Oh! Nanny, wilt thou gang with me?" "Johnny Armstrong's last good night," "The cruelty of Barbara Allen," with many others, have been long familiar to the popular ear. And there are few persons of any cultivation, who would willingly admit, that they were ignorant of the songs of Burns, or of "Savourna Deelish," "Coolun," "The last rose of summer," and the many other favourite melodies of Moore. Church music, also, has materially improved in the present century.

There are now no theatres in the County of Down, but there was one long, and very well, supported in Newry, in my earlier years, having a fair stated company, occasionally assisted by some of the great performers of the day. It was here the writer first witnessed the unrivalled acting of the elder Kean, but the theatre has long been numbered with the things that were. The new Belfast Theatre, recently erected, receives a fair degree of patronage.

**DRESS, ARMOUR, AND WEAPONS.**—When dress, properly so called, succeeded to the earliest clothing of the inhabitants, consisting of the skins of various animals, there is no reason to doubt that the habiliments worn in Down resembled those in other parts of the kingdom, and in describing the most ancient costume of the Irish, we shall principally follow the account of Walker, whose interesting work appears to have been compiled with much care. The chief articles anciently in use were the Truis, the Cota, the Cochal, the Canabhas, the Barras, and the Brog or Brogue.

The truis, or straight bracca, was made of weft, woven in stripes of various colours, which, reaching up to the loins, covered the ancles, legs and thighs, and fitted close to the limbs, something in the fashion of the modern pantaloons. The truis was met by the cota, a kind of waistcoat, made either of woollen plaid, or of

linen dyed yellow, open before, and descending so far as to admit of being folded round the body, and fastened by a girdle about the loins. The dye used in making the linen, according to Spenser, was saffron, but it is asserted by Lady Moira, that the colouring material, as is most likely, was produced from a kind of lichen growing on the rocks, which furnished an indigenous article termed archil. The sleeves of the cota were indifferently long or short. Over the cota was worn the cochal or cocula, a sort of long cloak or upper garment, with a large hanging hood of divers colours, reaching as low as the middle of the thigh, and fringed with a shaggy border. The extremity was brought over the shoulder with a buckle or clasp (dealg fallaine), made of silver or gold. In battle the cochal was wrapped round the left arm, as a sort of shield. Specimens of the clasps referred to may be seen in the museums of Trinity College and of the Royal Irish Academy. In the eleventh century, the mantles of the Irish kings were fastened by a golden button.\*

The Cannabis, Philleadh, or Filhad (from fillam, to fold or plait), mostly worn by persons of royal rank, was a garment not unlike the cochal, for which it may have been occasionally substituted. When thrown over the shoulders and spread over the whole body, the hood of the cochal being at the same time drawn over the head, it formed a complete disguise of the person. The material used in making this article of dress, consisted in the time of Cambrensis of a coarse woollen cloth stained black or purple, but those subsequently introduced were plaided or striped after the manner of the Teutons, the crimson dye termed corcar, employed in their manufacture, being prepared from a species of moss.

The Barrad was a sort of cap, not unlike the headdress of the modern grenadier, but with this difference, that the cone of the barrad usually hung behind. The Scotch bonnet was also in use,

\* Historical Essays on the Dress of the Ancient and Modern Irish, by Joseph C. Walker, pp. 4, 5, 6. Ulster Journal of Archæology, vol. vii., p. 107.

and for several ages many of the natives of Connaught wore no covering on the head but the hood of the cochula, fastened under the chin, or a cailleach or kercher, made of the skin of some animal, flowing from the crown of the head over the shoulders, and worn by both sexes, but more usually by the men.

The Broga or brogue was made of skins either dried, or half tanned. It was fastened by a latchet or thong, and resembled a sandal, having only a single sole, which was level from heel to toe. The inhabitants also wore a kind of buskin, made of raw skin, with the hair outwards, and when in wear, laced in front with thongs of leather, the sole and upper part being of the same thickness. This kind of shoe is still common in some parts of the county.

The Beard was cherished, and the hair allowed to grow and fall about the neck, in locks termed cooluns or glibs, a custom subsequently proscribed by law.

The dress of the Irish, as described by Cambrensis, consisted of a close capuchin or hooded mantle covering the shoulders down to the elbows, composed of striped fabrics of various colours and materials, under which were worn fallins or jackets, and large loose breeches or stockings. The barret was a thick woollen covering for the head and shoulders. Cambrensis adds, "In riding they use no saddles, nor do they wear boots or spurs, carrying only a switch, and their bridles and bits are so contrived, as not to prevent their horses pasturing, in a country where they feed solely on grass." The frieze mantle described by Ware was not the original, but a more modern garment, which had replaced it. Nor was it invariably composed of frieze, but sometimes, as improvement advanced, of the finest "cloath," with silken or fine woollen fringes. The mantles of the females differed little from those of the men, except in length, extending sometimes below the ankles.

In early times (1072), mantles made of narrow frieze were in general use, the material of which they were composed being exempt from alnage. Under the mantles were worn doublets, or



close "butches, commonly called trowses." The mantle continued long in use, and is well known from the quaint but coarse account of it given by Spencer.

By the eighth of Edward III., frieze was required to be manufactured in pieces twenty inches broad, and two feet in length, which were called a bundle. Seventeen bundles made a suit of clothing for a man, and the value of each bundle was threepence halfpenny. Twelve bundles sufficed for a mantle. At this time the price of a hat was twenty pence, stockings cost sixpence, and a good shirt about three shillings.

Linen early became a favourite material in the Irish costume. An ancient French tourist, whilst describing the roads on his route as almost impassable, informs us at the same time, that he was so shocked at the absence of nether garments in the clothing of the natives, "that he caused breeches of linen to be mayde for the kings of Ireland." This is quite possible, but the assertion of Fynes Morrison that the chieftains sat round the fire with their attendants naked, is equally incredible and absurd, as the temperature of the climate alone would render such exposure impracticable. Besides, the statement is contrary to the narrative of tourists who visited the country about the close of the fifteenth century, one of whom tells us that "The Irish doe weare linen shirtes of great length for wantonnesse and braverye, with white hanging sleeves plaited; thirty yards are little enough for one of them. They have now left off they're saffron, *and learned to washe their shirtes four or five times in the year.*" Speed says the linen shirt was in universal use, and seldom put off until worn out, but then it was worn not under, but over the other habiliments. It may be remarked, however, with reference to the voluminous linen robes of early periods, that the material used was narrow, not exceeding in width from twelve to fourteen inches. The linen was frequently dyed, but the use of saffron was proscribed by Henry VIII. in 1539. "Ne persone, or persones, the king's subjects, shall weare any shirte, kercher, bandelle, or markete, coloured or dyed with saffron, nor yet weare

in any shirte or smocke above seven yards of cloth;" but the proscription, both as regarded the dyeing, and dimensions of the favourite dress, was ineffectual. According to Spenser, the women wrapped great wreaths of linen round their head, which having the hair dressed over them, formed, we can readily believe, an unsightly garment. The very unfavourable description of Morrison, which referred to the times of James I., is as follows:—"Their wives living among the English are attired in a sluttish gown, and in a more sluttish mantell, and more sluttish linen, and their heads be covered after the Turkish manner with many ells of linen, forming turbans flat in the top, and broad in the sides. For the rest, in the remote parts, the very chiefs of the Irish, as well men as women, goe naked in the winter time," an assertion which the condition of the climate alone renders incredible, as we have already stated. Speed's description about the same era is more trustworthy. "The men wore linen shirts exceedingly large, stained with saffron, the sleeves wide and hanging to their knees, strait and short trusses plaited thick in the skirts, their breeches close to the thighs, and mantle most times cast over their heads. The women wore their haire plaited in a curious manner, hanging down their backs and shoulders from under folden wreaths of fine linen, rolled about their heads. Their neckes were hung with chains and carkanets, their arms wreathed with many bracelets, and over their side garments the shagge rugge mantles purfled (*i. e.*, wrought on the edges), with a deep fringe of divers colours, both sexes accounting idleness their only libertie, and 'easse' their greatest riches." He adds that the linen shirt was seldom put off until worn out. Silk garments would appear to have been occasionally used by persons of the highest rank. In the will of Cormack, King of Munster, a vestment of silk is mentioned amongst the legacies, from which Walker infers, that this material was in use in Ireland before it reached England, having, it is supposed, been introduced into the latter country in the reign of Henry II.

\* Ledwich's Antiquities.

Golden collars, too, are often referred to in ancient annals, but they may possibly have been introduced into Ireland by the Danes.

The dress of the Irish was early made the subject of legal regulation. The first sumptuary law affecting it was, it is alleged, made by Tighernmand in 1515, the object being to distinguish the different ranks, by the number of colours in their garments. The peasantry and soldiers were limited to one colour, military officers and private gentlemen to two, commanders of battalions to three, beatachs or keepers of houses of hospitality to four, the principal nobility and knights to five, ollams or dignified bards to six, and the kings and princes of the blood to seven. Other Acts were passed at Irishtown or Kilkenny, in 1537 and 1565, regarding the dress to be worn, and the prices of making it, as shown by the following curious extract:—"A quilted dublet, with a new-fashioned *bellue*, or petticoat, one shilling; a pair of gallyenishes (*i.e.*, a short tight English shirt), eightpence; a pair of new-fashioned close hose, sixpence; a woman's Irish coat, double seamed, sevenpence, and every ounce of silk wrought on a woman's coat, ninepence." By a bye law in the Corporation of Kilkenny, every inhabitant, being a free man or a free woman, was permitted to wear any apparel except after the English fashion, and no woman was allowed to wear caps on pain of forfeiture." Another curious enactment was "that every burgess shall go in his cloak, and also every freeman, on pain of forfeiture, except W. Dallany, Teig Lowe, and R. Wate."\* Agreeably to the provisions of an enactment passed Anno Domini 192, the silver bodkin, then generally in use, was paid for in heifers as follows—viz., three heifers by an Oc-airech, five heifers by a Boairich, and by every airech or noble, up to an airech forgil, to whom the price was ten or fifteen heifers according to his rank. A king, or professor, remunerated the maker with thirty heifers. The bodkin, usually made of silver, but sometimes of brass, was worn on the breast or

\* Walker, pp. 20 and 59.

head, or on both. The same law provided that seven heifers should be the price of a servant's clothing, and considerably more for that of a king. Three milch cows were the value of a free poet's clothing and that of his wife, or for that of a chief bard to a flaithe or petty prince. To the wife of an ollamh, or poet laureate, the cost was the same. The price of an ollamh's clothing was five milch cows. A young bullock or steer, or a heifer, for which an ounce in silver was an equivalent, was the prescribed payment of a mantle wrought with the needle, or for work in divers colours, and scarlet silk still more. The price of a queen's clothing, if she brought a regal dowry, was six cows, but if dowerless, the payment was in proportion to the value of the clothing.

A sumptuary law of Henry VIII., c. 15, runs thus :—"It is enacted, that no person shall wear hair on the head or face, nor any manner of clothing, mantle, coat, or hood, after the Irish fashion, but in all things shall conform to the habits and manners of the civil people within the English pale," and the immoderate use of fur was prohibited at the same time, King John attempted to introduce the English mode but failed, and the ancient dress continued to be used in the time of Queen Elizabeth, at which period, however, gloves had been added to the costume. In the reign of her successor, James I., enactments were made to compel the people to conform to the English dress, to cut off their glibs or long hair, and to substitute hats as a covering for the head, and by the infliction of fines, but perhaps more by the influence of fashion, a change was gradually effected.

**ARMOUR.**—Body armour appears to have been unknown to the Irish before the 10th century, but within the Pale, English articles of defence were gradually adopted by the natives. Gilt bridles and harness were by law restricted to certain ranks. Gorgets and corselets of gold, and gold-hilted swords, were only worn by persons of the highest grade, and on very rare occasions. The helmets first in use were the cailmhion, salet, or scull. The first was made of coarse skin, but subsequently of iron. The flat helmet of the times of Henry II., early found its way into Ireland, but soon

yielded to the salet. When the Pale was formed, necessity compelled those, not within its confines, to retain the use of the glib, their heads being otherwise uncovered. Within the pale the salet was in use, and the gallowglasses were furnished with the Irish scull.\* These troops were further protected by a shirt of mail and a skeine. The weapon then most in use was "a battel axe or halberd, six foote longe, the blade whereof was somewhat like a shoemaker's 'knyfe,' the strocke whereof is deadly where yt lighteth, and being thus armed reconinge to him a man for his harness-bearer, and a boy to carry his provisions, he is named a spere of his weapon, so called, eighty of which speres make a battle of gallowglass." The English, within the pale, wore a jack corslet, or haubergeon, as well as the salet described by Spenser,† made of quilted leather, embroidered with the same material gilt, or with silk. Leathern thrum jackets were also sometimes used by the Irish, as well as the haubergeon, which was formed of several folds of linen or hempen cloth, interwoven with a net-work of small ringlets of iron or silver, or of small square plates of the former metal, with a hole in each, and the edges laid one over the other, quilted with thread, and bedded in paper covered with wool.

The SHIELD, TARGET, OR PAVICE.—The Irish shields were not made of metal. Spenser describes them as being long and broad, and composed of wicker rods. He also alludes to round, coloured leather targets, probably worn at a very early day. Both brass and iron swords were in use amongst the Irish in ancient times. They were double edged and often highly ornamented. The dagger, termed by the Irish a skian, invariably accompanied the sword. The fiadgha or crannuibh, spear or dart, was a kind of spear or javelin, about five feet long, and pointed with flint or bone, first used in the chase, but afterwards in war.

The tuagh catha, or battle-axe, was a most deadly weapon, the edge being sometimes of a curved form. It soon superseded the

\* John Dymok, in his Treatise of Ireland.

† View of the State of Ireland. Chronicle of Ireland published by Holinshed, p. 1, and Walker, pp. 108 and 109. Collect de Rebus Hibernius, No. iv,



claidhamh, a heavy Irish sword. Walker refers to a specimen, at that time in the possession of the Countess of Moira, which had been found in a grave in Lecale. Amongst other offensive weapons were slings of various sorts, termed clochadh, knantabhall, and celt. The crannibh or club was also in common use, as well as a species of short bow and arrow, though archery appears to have fallen into disuse at the time of the English invasion.

In the time of Charles I., the English mode of dress was beginning to make way in Ireland, although that monarch had taken the initiative, in removing the restrictive laws on the subject, enacted by his predecessors. Open sleeves, neckcloths, perriwigs, masks, and fans, were coming into use, and the mantle and hose fell into desuetude. In the time of James II., William III., and Anne, the English attire had probably become usual among all ranks of the people. The riding habit, however, had not yet been adopted, and the lady of that period wore the same costume, in the drawing-room and on horse-back, and to a comparatively recent date, buskins when in the saddle. In the present day, the dress of the better classes does not differ from that in use in other parts of the kingdom, and the high wages now prevalent enable even the peasantry, where not idle or intemperate, to be clad in a manner much exceeding, rather than falling short of, the clothing suitable to their position; but over-dressing, in all classes, is one of the prevalent follies of the day. Amongst the lower ranks of the people, much of the attire was commonly of home production. The wool was scoured and spun by the females, and woven by the men into flannel, suitable for blankets, petticoats, and other articles of dress. Woollen and flax yarn were also combined for the manufacture of ticken and bed curtains. Home-made frieze was in general wear, and it is so still, in some districts, the favourite dye being either brown, or skyblue; of flax yarn the products were sheets, shirts, and the frocks of children, the latter being coloured blue for common dress, and buff for holiday attire. At this period the floors of the sitting rooms, in the more common mansions, were covered with sand; mats and carpets not being then in general use.

At present scarcely any peculiarity of dress is observable, all classes wearing articles of British or foreign manufacture, linen alone excepted.

FOOD.—In such a condition of society as we have been depicting, there could be little comfort, and no refinement in dress, or in the manner of living. All ranks dwelt in rude cabins, unsubstantially constructed of hurdles, and plastered with clay, whilst the chief alone dwelt within fortified enclosures termed raths, to which the populace could resort for safety, in times of great and imminent peril. Their food appears to have consisted principally of milk, prepared in various ways, and the flesh of cattle and the products of the chase, wild animals, especially swine, then existing in vast numbers in the trackless forests in which they found nourishment and shelter. Of vegetable food there was little or none, the supply being, in a great measure, limited to sorrel watercress, scurvygrass, and other uncultivated pot-herbs, used probably more as correctives than food.

Fish, both fresh and salted, were in common use, and the animal food, which formed the principal part of the diet, was either sodden or fried. Ledwich alludes to bread baked under the embers, oatenmeal mixed with water, pease, beans, fruits, artichokes, cauliflowers, pumpions, and butter, as entering into the diet of the Irish. Of bread, however, they had little or none, and the cultivated products of the garden could not have been in use at a very early date. One of their favourite beverages, concocted from honey, was termed metheglin, the taste for which may in part account for the strict protection afforded to bees by the Brehon law, but their ancient and peculiar drink was ale. They had also fermented potations, as the Tartars have at the present day.

Ledwich says, that having no orchards, they had no cider, and he infers from the silence of Bede and Cambrensis on the subject, that there was no ale; but mead is believed to have been common, as well as Poictou wine for which pelfry was given in exchange.\*

\* Ledwich's *Antiquities*, p. 220.

The distillation of ardent spirits was introduced in the twelfth century, and did not reach Ireland until a later period, about the end of the sixteenth century, but at all events, they were early acquainted with the art of extracting spirit from malt.

The Irish had usually two meals in the day, one before sunrise, the other, and more important one, in the evening, and it is probable that leprosy, a disease common in these times, arose partly from want of cleanliness, of dress, and partly from the nature of their food, and its defective cookery.

When they met at their ordinary entertainments, they sat down in a circle, on rushes or beds of grass, but the richer and more civilized reclined on beds. Three-legged stools were then placed before them, covered with victuals, and the attendants served drink about in cups. In more modern times, the articles usually composing the diet of the people, were porridge and bread of oatmeal, salt beef, pickled pork, and broth made by boiling these meats with barley, and groats; together with fowls, eggs, milk, butter, cheese, and potatoes. This last esculent, prior to the potato blight, constituted a principal part of the food of the lower classes, for a long period, although about a century ago, the quantity in cultivation was so small, that the crop was usually exhausted in September, a dish being merely reserved for the festival supper at Hallowe'en. The growth of this vegetable, however, has greatly increased since that time, the supply usually lasting until June or July, when the succeeding crop becomes ready for use. In the present day baker's bread, which has taken the place of bread made of oaten meal, simply, or mixed, forms a large portion of the diet used by the working classes, together with potatoes, although as much fish and animal food is used by them, as they have the means of purchasing. Beef is now bought by those in better circumstances, as it is wanted, in place of slaughtering an animal at November, and salting it for the winter's store, and considerable quantities of bacon are still prepared for home use.

### CHAPTER III.

Civil and Military Polity—Legal, fiscal, and other civil arrangements.

THE Laws applying to this country are generally the same as those in other parts of the Kingdom, but there are, in addition, various private and local acts, which are in force in Ireland only, of which the Church and Land Acts are notable examples.

The usual assizes and gaol deliveries are holden in March, and July or August, in the county town, for the trial of all serious civil and criminal cases, and of appeals, from the Quarter Sessions Courts.

Special Commissions on emergencies have, occasionally, been issued at other periods, as in 1803, when Thomas Russell, of Belfast, James Drake, James Corry, and Michael Maginn, were sentenced to be executed at Downpatrick for treasonable practices.

Two judges of the Superior Courts preside at the Assizes, one of whom sits in the civil, and the other in the criminal Court. Considerable changes have recently been made in constituting the Jury panels of the County.

By the new Jury Act (34 & 35 Vic. c. 65) the qualification of Jurors was fixed, varying in different counties. In eleven of them, of which Down is one, the qualification is £20 in lands annually, and Twelve pounds in respect of lands in any village, city, or town.

In six counties, including Down, one hundred pounds in respect of lands and tenements are necessary, to qualify as a Special Juror.

The County Gaol is situated at Downpatrick, and is under the general direction of a Board of Superintendence, consisting of

twelve members, who are appointed by the Lord Lieutenant. The present Gaol was preceded by an edifice situated where the assembly rooms now stand, and the gaol, prior to both, occupied the site of the market house. The present barrack was once a gaol. In 1796, the prisoners were removed from the old to the late gaol, and the erection of the county rooms was proceeded with. The Gaol was erected at a cost of £52,041. It was commenced on the 10th of July, 1824, Mr. Robert Read being the architect, and Mr. Lynn the contractor. The rubble stone was procured from Annacloy in the vicinity, the granite from Slieve Donard, and the slates from the Isle of Easdale, in Argyleshire.

The officers are a governor, deputy governor, a local inspector, a surgeon, and an apothecary, with three chaplains, appointed for the Irish, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic Churches respectively. The gaol is visited occasionally by a government inspector. The present governor is Major Leslie Thompson, formerly an officer of the line.

The average cost of a prisoner, for one year, is about £39. There are two bridewells in the county, one at Newry, and the other at Newtownards, with a Governor appointed for each.

#### QUARTER SESSIONS, LAND SESSIONS AND ASSISTANT BARRISTERS.

The Courts of the Chairmen of Counties, or Quarter Sessions, correspond to the English County Courts, but they have a much earlier origin, having been founded as far back as 1796, by the 36th of Geo. III. c. 25.

The Quarter Sessions are held at each of the following towns, viz. :—Downpatrick, Newtownards, and Newry, at the terms of Hilary, Easter, Trinity, and Michaelmas ; and twice in the year at Hillsborough and Banbridge. Down being one of the largest counties, the salary of the assistant Barrister is £1,100 and £100 have been recently added to it, on account of the additional duty of trying claims under the Land Act. At the Land Courts all cases of dispute between the Landlord and Tenant, regarding the value of improvements, or disturbance in the tenancy, are decided



in the first instance, but with power of appeal (the assistant Barrister consenting), to the going judge of Assize, in the first instance, and finally to the Court of Land Cases Reserved, in Dublin.

The present Assistant Barrister for the County is Mr. Robert Johnston, who has held the appointment for many years.

Prior to the establishment of the quarter sessions, civil bills were tried at the assizes,\* and the number entered for adjudication in different years may be interesting to the legal reader. In 1786 the numbers were 1,153, and the average annual number from that to 1795 was about 1,000. In that year they amounted to 968, and at the lent assizes of 1786 to 329. At the first quarter sessions which were holden in October, 1796, the number of Bills was 36, and in November of the same year at Newry they amounted to 62. Subsequently they gradually increased from 525 to 4,548 the number entered in 1817.

The Bills entered at the Sessions in Down in 1819 were 1,581; and in 1820, 1,230, but the numbers actually tried are considerably less than those entered on the list. In about one-half of the cases decrees are obtained, and the remainder dismissed, for want of sufficient proof, informalities, and other causes. In recent years the number of cases has been still more numerous.

The other Civil officers acting in the County are the Clerk of the Crown, a Clerk of the Peace, a Crown Solicitor, a Sessional Crown Solicitor, a Treasurer, a Secretary to the Grand Jury, a Solicitor to the Grand Jury, two County Surveyors, eleven Assistant Surveyors, and two Coroners. There are also three Inspectors of National Schools, resident in Downpatrick, Newtownards, and Newry, respectively.

PETTY SESSIONS.—The jurisdiction of these local courts extends to cases of assault, claims for wages, the recovery of rent in arrears by weekly tenants, under the 14 & 15 Vic. c. 92, sec. 15, and also to cases of waste, overholding, and nonpayment of rent by

\* Reilly's Harris.

collier tenants, under the 23 & 24 Vic. c. 92, sec. 15. Each town, where Petty Sessions are held, is appointed as a polling station, during the election of members of Parliament. Certain classes of cases can be decided by one magistrate only, but for the trial of the majority, at least two must be present on the bench.

The Petty Sessions districts consists of a fixed area around the different towns, and they are arranged by the magistrates. A clerk of Petty Sessions for each district is also appointed by the magistrates.

Petty Sessions are holden at the following places, on fixed days, in some cases twice, and in others once, a month :—

ARDGLASS AND KILLOUGH, ...	on the third Wednesday of each month.
BALLINAHINCH, ... ..	on the first and third Wednesday.
BANBRIDGE, ... ..	on the second Thursday.
BANGOR, ... ..	on the first and third Saturday.
CASTLEWELLAN, ... ..	on the second Tuesday.
DONAGHAHADEE, ... ..	on the second Thursday.
DOWNPATRICK, ... ..	on the second Thursday.
DROMARA ... ..	on the first Monday.
DROMORE, ... ..	on the first and third Monday,
KILLINCHY, ... ..	on the fourth Monday.
GILFORD, ... ..	on the first Tuesday.
GREY ABBEY, ... ..	on the second Monday.
HILLSBOROUGH, ... ..	on the second Saturday.
HOLYWOOD, ... ..	on the second and last Saturday.
KILKEEL, ... ..	on the first Tuesday.
KILLYLEAGH, ... ..	on the second Friday.
MOIRA, ... ..	on the last Wednesday.
NEWRY, ... ..	on every Friday.
NEWTOWNARDS, ... ..	on the first and third Tuesday.
NEWTOWNBREDA, ... ..	on the first and third Saturday.
PORTAFERRY, ... ..	on the third Monday.
RATHFRILAND, ... ..	on the third Friday.
SAINTFIELD, ... ..	on the third Tuesday.
SEAFORDE, ... ..	on the third Tuesday.
WARINGSTOWN, ... ..	on the first Friday.
WARRENPOINT, ... ..	on the second Tuesday.

### PIEPOUDRE COURTS, COURTS LEET, AND COURTS BARON.

Piepoudre Courts were established for arranging disputes occurring at fairs or markets, especially with pedlars (*pied puldreaux*), but they are long obsolete in this county. The term leet is derived from the Dutch *laet*, implying a peasant tenant. A court leet is a court of the copyhold, or analogous tenants, as distinguished from the Courts Baron of the freeholders of a manor.

The general business of the Courts leet was to present by jury, all crimes happening within their jurisdiction, and to prevent or punish all trivial misdemeanors; but in early times, their principal function was to view the grants, pledges, or bonds entered into mutually by the freemen, "to see each man of them pledged, forthcoming to answer the transgression of any one gone away, and to ascertain to what pledge he belonged, when these of that pledge were either bound to produce the offender, within thirty-one days, or to make satisfaction for his offence."

This was analogous to the Brehon Law, by which a tribe was collectively responsible, for the crimes of any of its members.

These courts have almost entirely fallen into desuetude, though small payments of leet-money are still made in many of the manors.

### COURTS OF PROBATE.

The Court of Probate for the Counties of Down and Antrim is in Belfast, where the Registrar has his office for the registry of wills, and for other ecclesiastical business.

### MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

Four members are returned to Parliament, viz., two to represent the county, and one for each of the boroughs of Newry and Downpatrick. The qualified electors for Belfast, resident in the County Down but within the borough, vote in the election of the two members for the town of Belfast.

The number of electors for the county at large were, in 1868, 11,646, and for the boroughs of Newry and Downpatrick, 396, and 241, respectively.

The following is a complete list of the members serving in Parliament for the County of Down since 1585, when it was represented by Sir Nicholas Bagnall and Sir Hugh Magennis. The Parliament of that year was called by Sir John Perrot, and met in Dublin on the 26th of April. Prior to this time, very few representatives were sent from Ulster, the people being either unable or unwilling to pay their "wages" for attendance.

1613. Sir James Hamilton and Sir Hugh Montgomery. This election took place on the 1st of May, in the town of Newry. There were polled in all 131 British freeholders, and 110 Irish freeholders. The House met on the 18th of May.

1639. Sir Edward Trevor and Sir James Montgomery.

1647. Evor Magennis and Hugh Magennis represented the County of Down, in the general assembly of confederated Roman Catholics, who met at Kilkenny.

1654. Arthur Hill and Robert Venables, Colonels in the army of Oliver Cromwell. To this Parliament, which was held at Westminster, Ireland sent thirty members, who represented a considerable part of Ulster, viz., the counties of Armagh, Antrim, and Down. The House met on Tuesday, the 3rd of September.

1656. Arthur Hill and Robert Venables. This Parliament met at Westminster on the 17th of September.

1658. In this year Richard Cromwell held a Parliament, but we learn no particulars.

1661. Marcus Trevor and Arthur Hill. Arthur Hill died in 1663.

1689. Murtagh Maginnis and Evor Maginnis sat in the Parliament held by James II., which met in Dublin on the 7th of May. The only Protestants in this House were Sir John Meade and Joseph Coghlan, who were returned for Trinity College, Dublin.

1692. Sir Arthur Rawdon and James Hamilton (of Bangor).

1713. Nicholas Price and Michael Ward, one of the Judges of the King's Bench.

In 1715 Trevor Hill and Michael Ward were returned, but Toby Hall, High Sheriff, neglecting to make the necessary returns of the election in due time, was ordered to Dublin, where he and James Duncan, his sub-sheriff, were ordered into the custody of the Sergeant-at-arms.

1717. Sir John Rawdon, in the room of Trevor Hill, created Viscount Hillsborough.

1725. Robert Hawkins Magill. He had succeeded to the estates of Sir John Magill, and took his surname.

1727. Robert Hawkins Magill, and Hon. Arthur Hill. The Hon. Arthur Hill was the youngest son of Michael Hill, Hillsborough, by Anne, daughter of Sir John Trevor.

1745. Bernard Ward, in the room of Sir Robert Hawkins Magill, who died in April.

1759. The Right Hon. Arthur Trevor and Bernard Ward.

1766. The Hon. Henry S. Conway, in the room of the Right Hon. Arthur Trevor, who, in 1763, succeeded to the estates of his maternal grandfather, Sir John Trevor, of Brinkinalt, Denbigh, and who, on the 27th of April, 1765, was created Viscount Dungannon.

1768. Roger Hall and Bernard Ward. In this year Robert Stewart, of Newtownards, set up as a candidate, but lost his election.

1771. Robert Stewart, in the room of Bernard Ward, created Viscount Bangor.

1776. The Hon. Arthur Hill, and Robert Stewart.

In 1773. The Hon. Arthur Hill and Edward Ward. This election was contested by Robert Stewart, and continued for twenty days. He presented a petition against the return, but it was declared frivolous and vexatious. The number of votes were, for Hill, 2831; for Ward, 2071; and for Stewart, 1957.

1790. The Right Hon. Arthur Hill, and Hon. Robert Stewart, afterwards Lord Castlereagh. This contested election continued



69 days. The following were the number of votes: Right Hon. Arthur Hill, 3534; Hon. Robert Stewart, 3114; Hon. Edward Ward, 2968; George Mathews, 2223. On the return of the Hon. Robert Stewart there were great rejoicings in several towns of the County of Down; and as the "champion of independence" he was splendidly entertained in Belfast.

1793. Francis Savage, in the room of the Right Hon. Arthur Hill, who succeeded his father in the Peerage.

1797. The Right Hon. Robert Stewart (Lord Castlereagh), and Francis Savage.

1802. The Right Hon. Robert Stewart (Lord Castlereagh), and Francis Savage.

1805. The Hon. John Meade. The Right Hon. Robert Stewart having vacated his seat by accepting the office of Secretary of the Colonies, his re-election was opposed by Colonel John Meade, who was elected after a brisk contest, by a majority of 450 votes.

1807. Francis Savage and the Hon. John Meade. The Parliament being again dissolved before those persons took their seats, the same were again chosen, or more properly, nominated, by the Hill interest.

1812. The Hon. Robert Ward.—Chosen May 20th, in the room of Francis Savage, resigned.

1812. The Hon. John Meade and the Right Hon. Robert Stewart (Lord Castlereagh). At the hustings, Mr. Pottinger offered himself as a candidate, but after a few tallies, were polled he resigned.

1816. The Hon Robert Stewart (Lord Castlereagh) and Lord Arthur Hill, second son of Arthur, second Marquis of Downshire.

1820. The Right Hon. Robert Stewart (Lord Castlereagh) and Lord Arthur Hill.

1821. Matthew Forde, in the room of Lord Castlereagh, who succeeded his father in the Peerage as second Marquis of Londonderry.

1826. Lord Arthur Hill and Frederick Stewart (Viscount Castlereagh). Frederick Stewart was the son of Charles William Lord Stewart, a general in the army, and nephew to the Marquis of Londonderry.

1830. Lord Arthur Hill and Viscount Castlereagh. This election was contested by Colonel Forde. The following was the number of votes: Lord Castlereagh, 930; Lord Arthur Hill, 837; Colonel Forde, 766.

1831. Lord Arthur Hill and Viscount Castlereagh. Their return was again contested by William Sharman Crawford, but they were returned by a large majority.

1832. Lord Arthur Hill and Viscount Castlereagh.

1835. Lord Arthur Hill and Viscount Castlereagh.

1836. Lord Arthur having been called to the Upper House under the title of Lord Sandys, the Earl of Hillsborough was returned.

1837. Viscount Castlereagh and the Earl of Hillsborough.

1841. Viscount Castlereagh and the Earl of Hillsborough.

1845. On the death of Lord Downshire, the Earl of Hillsborough was called to the Upper House, when Lord Arthur Edwin Hill was returned.

1847. Viscount Castlereagh and Lord Arthur Edwin Hill.

1852. Lord Arthur Edwin Hill and David Stewart Ker, Viscount Castlereagh having been called to the Upper House on the death of his father, the Marquis of Londonderry.

1857. Lord Arthur Edwin Hill and Colonel William Brownlow Forde.

1859. Lord Arthur Edwin Hill and Colonel Forde.

1865. Lord Arthur Edwin Hill, who had now assumed the title of Trevor, on the death of Viscount Dungannon.

1868. Lord Arthur Edwin Hill Trevor and Colonel Forde.

1874. Lord Arthur Edwin Hill Trevor and James Sharman Crawford who succeeded in contesting the county against Colonel Forde.

LIST OF MEMBERS RETURNED IN SUCCESSION FOR THE  
BOROUGH OF DOWNPATRICK.

1585. In this year Sir John Perrot called a parliament to meet in Dublin; but though Downpatrick appears in the list of Boroughs, no members were returned.

1713. Richard Wingfield and Richard West. They were paid £46 6s. 8d. for their attendance.

1639. William Billingsby and Marcus Travanion.

1647. Daniel Macnamara represented the Borough in the assembly of Confederate Roman Catholics, who met at Kilkenny.

1689. No writ was issued by the government of King James II.

1692. James Hamilton and Nicholas Price.

1695. John Magill and Francis Annesley.

1703. Francis Annesley and Matthew Forde. The former was expelled the House for being author of a book entitled "The Report of the Commissioners appointed by Parliament to inquire into Irish Forfeitures."

1715. Sir Emanuel Moore and Thomas Medlecott.

1727. Cromwell Price and Edward Southwell, jun. Brice Magee, Seneschal, complained to the House that Robert Lambert, High Sheriff of the county, and Patrick M'Cormac, his sub-sheriff, had behaved improperly. They were ordered to Dublin, and put in the custody of the Sergeant-at-arms.

1755. Rowen Southwell, in the room of Edward Southwell, deceased.

1761. Matthew Forde and Francis C. Annesley.

1768. Matthew Forde, jun., and Francis C. Annesley.

1771. Clothworthy Rowley, in the room of F. C. Annesley, who succeeded his father in the Peerage as second Viscount Glerawley.

1776. Clothworthy Rowley and the Hon. Robert Southwell.

1783. Clothworthy Rowley and the Hon. Hercules Rowley. Andrew Callwell sat in the room of the Hon. Hercules Rowley, who made his election for the County of Antrim.

1790. Clothworthy Rowley, Johnathan Chetwood.

1797. Clothworthy Rowley, Josias Rowley. This election was contested by Edward S. Trotter and John B. Trotter.

1802. Charles S. Hawthorne. The borough was again contested by the Honourable Mr. Upton, who lost his election by a small majority.

1807. John Wilson Croker. This election was also contested by Edward S. Ruthven, who was unsuccessful.

1812. Charles S. Hawthorne, who was unsuccessfully opposed by John W. Croker.

1818. Lord Gleralwey. Elected after a contest, by a large majority.

1820. John Waring Maxwell, who was unsuccessfully opposed by Edward S. Ruthven.

1826. J. W. Maxwell.

1830. Edward S. Ruthven.

1831. Edward S. Ruthven, opposed by Lord Dundas, the former polling 222, and the latter 150.

1832. John Waring Maxwell.

1835. David Ker.

1837. David Stewart Ker.

1841. David Stewart Ker.

1847. David Stewart Ker.

1852. The Hon. Charles Stewart Hardinge.

1857. Richard John C. Rivers Ker.

1859. David Stewart Ker.

1865. David Stewart Ker.

1867. Mr. Ker resigned when William Keown was elected.

1868. William Keown.

1874. John Mulholland.

The Members returned for Newry since the Union were as follows :—

1801. The Right Hon. Isaac Corry.

1802. The same.

1806. General Needham, afterward Earl Kilmorey

1807. Major General Needham, unsuccessfully opposed by Mr. Isaac Corry.

1812. General Needham, unsuccessfully opposed by John Philpot Curran.

1818. General Needham.

1819. Lord Newry.

1821. The same.

1826. The Hon. John Knox.

1831. The same, unsuccessfully opposed by Mr. Denis Maguire.

1832. At this first election after the Reform Bill, Lord Marcus Hill.

1835. Denis Caulfield Brady.

1837. John Ellis.

1841. Viscount Newry.

1847. Viscount Newry.

1851. E. G. Hallewell.

1852. William Kirk.

1857. William Kirk.

1859. Peter Quin.

1865. Arthur Charles Innes.

1868. William Kirk.

1871. Viscount Newry, on the death of Mr. Kirk.

1874. William Whitworth, unsuccessfully opposed by Lord Newry.

At an early day, the payment of members of parliament for their services was customary. Prior to the Union, the places represented in Down were the County at large, and the boroughs of Bangor, Hillsborough, Killyleagh, Newtownards, Newry, and Downpatrick, all of which, except the two last, have been disfranchised. From the Clogher papers we learn "that the sittings commenced on the 18th of May, 1613, and were dissolved on the 14th of October, 1613, "with ye wages" for the services of the members in the following proportions, viz. :—"



A Knight, for 149 days, at 13s. 4d. per day,	£99	6	8
A Citizen                    ,,                    ,, 10s. od.                    ,,	74	10	0
A Burgess                    ,,                    6s. 8d.                    ,,	49	13	0

The following sums were disbursed in the County of Down:—

To Sir James Hamilton, Privy Councillor, and

Sir Hugh Montgomery, Privy Councillor, £198 13 4

### Borough of Downpatrick :

To Sir Richard Wingfield Preston, Marshal of

the Army £46 6 8

Richard West, Esquire £139 0 0

Borough of Newry :

Arthur Basset, Esquire

John Leigh, Esquire                      £49 13 4

The representatives of the Borough of Bangor were Sir Ed. Brabazon, Privy Councillor, and John Dalway, Esquire. Of the Borough of Killolough (Killyleagh), Edward Trevor, Esquire, and John Hamilton, Esquire. Of Newtown in "ye ards," George Cunningham of Loughriscoll, and James Cathcart of Balyngan, with similar rates of pay.

The wages in question were leviable by the Sheriff of the county.

In England, the pay of a member of parliament, in remote times, was 4s. per diem in a county, and 2s. in a borough. In the reign of Edward the IV. there is an instance of a member of parliament agreeing to receive a quantity of red herrings at Christmas, instead of the usual "wages."\*

LOCAL RATES.—All local charges are defrayed by Grand Jury presentments from the County rate. The purposes for which presentments are made are,—making and repairing new roads, bridges, quays, and gulleys; building and repairing courts of justice and prisons; prison expenses; police expenses; salaries to

\* Ancient MS. in the Library of the Dublin Society.

county officers; public charities; repayment of government advances; and miscellaneous charges. Some of those presentments are imposed and rated at the pleasure of the Grand Jury; but the following are imperative by Act of Parliament:—for County infirmary and fever hospitals; expenses of inquests; constabulary force (partly); prosecution of offenders; maintaining deserted children; expenses of the general valuation (partly), and of the Commissioners of Public Works; compensation for malicious injuries; expenses under the Arms Act; repayment of government advances; and some others of minor importance. Presentments for the general use of the county are levied on the county at large; those for particular districts on the baronies, or parishes enjoying their benefit.

The power of the Grand Juries in Ireland was (in 1836) limited by the creation of a tribunal called Presentment Sessions for each barony, and for the county at large, consisting of the magistrates of the county, and a certain number of the highest cesspayers, chosen by ballot out of a list fixed by the Grand Jury. Before these Presentment Sessions, nearly all the presentments, as to which the Grand Jury have any discretion, are required to be first passed, although they subsequently come under the review of the Grand Jury.

The only local taxes now leviabie are Poor rate and the County Cess. Of these last two taxes the half of the former, and the whole of the latter, were formerly paid by the occupying tenant, but in all lettings of agricultural holdings, subsequent to a recent change in the law, the landlord is required to pay one-half of the County rate.

The Church cess, parish rate, turnpike tax, and turnpikes have long been abolished in this country, and in place of the tithes formerly paid by the occupying tenant, a fixed tithe rent-charge is paid by the landlords.

Municipal Taxes, generally not exceeding one shilling in the pound, for lighting, sewerage, the provision of water, and other incidental expenses, are levied in most of the principal towns.

The County rate or Cess, for defraying the County expenses, is fixed by the Grand Jury at each assizes, and apportioned and collected by High Constables, one of whom is appointed for each of the fourteen Baronies and half Baronies. In levying the rate each collector employs and remunerates a number of assistants or sub-constables, for whose correctness he is responsible.

At the head of the executive is the Lord Lieutenant or Lieutenant Governor of the Kingdom. The local justices of the peace, amounting to about one hundred and eighty, include the lords lieutenant and deputy lieutenants, the number of which at present is thirty, and to these are to be added two unpaid magistrates, under the Sixth of William IV., and under the Second of the same monarch, c. 17.

The first Lord Lieutenant of the County of Down was Arthur, second Marquis of Downshire, who, having been previously invested with the blue riband of the Order of St. Patrick, was sworn into office by the Marquis of Anglesea, then at the head of the Irish executive.

The Lord Lieutenant of the County is also the *custos rotulorum*, but the actual custodian of the rolls and other county documents is the Clerk of the Peace.

The present Lord Lieutenant of the County of Down is the Earl of Dufferin and Clandeboye, but in his absence, as Governor of the dominion of Canada, the official duties are performed by Sir Thomas M'Clure, Baronet, one of the deputy lieutenants, who acts as Vice-Governor of the County.

The following are the deputy lieutenants on the roll of 1874, but the list, from deaths and new appointments, is constantly varying :—

The Earl of Annesley, Viscount Bangor, Sir Thomas Bateson, Bart., Denis Caulfield Brady, John Cleland, John Sharman Crawford, Samuel Arthur Hill Delacherois, Crommelin, Charles Douglas, The Marquis of Downshire, William Brownlow Forde, Major Hall, Gaun William Rowan Hamilton, Robert Heron, John

Blakiston Houston, Arthur Charles Innes, Sir William Gillilan Johnston, William Keown Boyd, David Stewart Ker, Robert Perceval Maxwell, John Meade, Hugh Montgomery, John Mulholland, Samuel Murland, Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew Nugent, Major Andrew Nugent, John Temple Reilly, The Earl of Roden, Alexander John R. Stewart, Robert Edward Ward, John Joseph White, James C. Price, Daniel Delacherois, and Lord Newry.

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## CHAPTER IV.

Constabulary, Military, and Coast Guard arrangements.

THE conservators of the public peace comprise the Sheriff, the Lord Lieutenant of the County, the unpaid and stipendiary Magistrates, and the Police.

The first Irish Police force was organised under the 54th of George the Third, in 1814, but their pay and duties are regulated under the 6th of William the Fourth, chapter 13, passed in 1836. The expense, at first, was defrayed partly by Grand Jury presentment, and partly out of the consolidated fund; but the act of 9 & 10 Victoria, cap. 97, passed in 1846, provided that the entire should be chargeable on the latter, except where an addition to the stated force is sent into a county, on the application of the magistrates.

The police force in Down consists of one County Inspector, seven Sub-Inspectors, eight Head Constables, fifty-seven Constables and Acting Constables, and one hundred and ninety-six Sub-Constables, but the numbers vary a little from time to time. The total expenditure for this County, in 1868, was £14,905.

The County Inspector is at present stationed at Downpatrick, and the Sub-Inspectors at Banbridge, Downpatrick, Hillsborough, Newcastle, Newtownards, and Rathfriland.

The different Constabulary Stations and Barracks, situated at suitable points over the County, amount to about thirty.

In 1867, Her Majesty the Queen conferred on the Police force the Title of the Royal Irish Constabulary, with medals and other rewards, for many of its members, who had distinguished themselves in suppressing the Fenian disturbances in that, and the preceding year.



Prior to the appointment of a Lord Lieutenant and Deputy Lieutenants, the government of the County was in the hands of a governor and deputy governors. In the year 1804 the deputy governors were Mr. Crawford of Crawford's Burn; Mr. Gordon of Florida Manor; Mr. Price of Saintfield House; Colonel Savage (afterwards Nugent) of Portaferry House; and Mr. Newell of Kinghill; and a list of the magistrates of the County may be found in Thom's Almanac, but it is too long for insertion here.

#### SHERIFF AND SUB-SHERIFF.

The Sheriff is appointed annually by the Lord Lieutenant, and he is usually, though not invariably, one of the three gentlemen nominated by the going judges of assize.

In very early times the Irish Sheriffs were appointed by the English sovereign, and their tenure of office continued during his pleasure, not being limited, as now, to a single year.

The Sheriff, during his officiate, is assisted by the Sub-Sheriff, who discharges the principal part of the duty. There are also a Sheriff's returning officer, and a staff of bailiffs. The following list of the Sheriffs of Down for several centuries may prove interesting in various points of view:—

1400. Robert Fitz John Savage.

1585. Thomas Woulf.

1592 } Randall or Ralph Brereton, of "Killauleaghe."  
1593 }

1600. Timothy Castletown.

1605. William Ward.

1607. Edmund Burey.

1610. Richard West.

1612. George Stritsbury (Stotisbury).

1613. Anthony Hawes.

1615. Nicholas West.

1619. Thomas Bands.

1620. Nicholas West.

1621. Piers Rutbergh.

- 1622. James Peckham.
- 1623. William Hamilton.
- 1624. Nicholas West.
- 1634. Henry Savage of Ardkeen.
- 1638. William Reading.
- 1639. William Burley.
- 1640. Patrick Shane of Mullogh and Erinagh.
- 1641. Peter Hill of Hill Hall.
- 1655. James Traill.
- 1656. Bernard Ward of Carrignashanagh.
- 1657. Major Roger West of Ballydugan.
- 1658. Richard Bingley.
- 1659. John Magill of Gillhall.
- 1660. Ralph Walsh.
- 1661. Robert Ward of Killough.
- 1662. Nicholas Ward.
- 1663. John Savage of Ardkeen.
- 1664. James Lesley of Sheepland, Ardglass.
- 1665. William Lesley and Francis Annesley.
- 1666. Richard Price of Fairnfad.
- 1667. Robert Ward.
- 1668. William Shaw.
- 1669. William Waring of Clanconnel.
- 1670. William Montgomery of Rosamon (*sic*).
- 1671. James Ross of Portavo.
- 1672. Francis Annesley of Cloughmaghericatt.
- 1673. Sir Robert Maxwell, Knt. and Bart. of "Killileagh."
- 1674. James Maxwell of Drum.
- 1675. John Hawkins.
- 1676. Randall Brice.
- 1677. Francis Hall.
- 1678. Hugh Eccles.
- 1679. William Brett of Ballynewport.
- 1680 } James Lesley.
- 1681 }

- 1682. Murt. M'Gennis of Greencastle.
- 1683. Sir Thos. Fortescue, Knt.
- 1684. Patrick Savage of Portaferry.
- 1685. Charles Ward.
- 1686. Hugh Montgomery.
- 1687 } Valentine Russell of Coniamstown, Killough.
- 1688 }
- 1689. Richard M'Gennis.
- 1690. Bernard Ward.
- 1691. Samuel Warren of Waringstown.
- 1692. Sir Arthur Rawdon, Bart.
- 1693. Richard Johnston.
- 1694. Nicholas Price.
- 1695. James Montgomery.
- 1696. John Gibbons of Ballykinlar.
- 1697. James Bayly of Inishargy.
- 1698. John Montgomery.
- 1699. John "Hultridge" of Dromore.
- 1700. John Hawkins.
- 1701. Hugh Colvill of Comber.
- 1702. Roger Hall of Mount Hall.
- 1703. Hercules Montgomery of Ballylesson.
- 1704. Nicholas Price of Saintfield.
- 1705. Westenra Warren.
- 1706. Mathew Forde of Seaforde.
- 1707. John Norris of Newcastle.
- 1708. Hans Hamilton.
- 1709. Robert Ross.
- 1710. Robert Johnson.
- 1711. Michael Ward of Castleward.
- 1712. John Magill.
- 1713. Western Warren.
- 1714. Roth Jones, Jonesborough.
- 1715. Toby Hall, Mount Hall, Narrow Water.
- 1716. Henry Maxwell of Finnebrogue.

- 1717. Sir William Johnston, of Gilford, Knt.
- 1718. Kobert Hawkins of Gill Hall.
- 1719. Simon Isaac of Holywood.
- 1720. George Lambert of Dunlady.
- 1721. Jas. Maxwell of Reubane.
- 1722. Cromwell Price of Hollymount.
- 1723. William Montgomery of Rosemount.
- 1724. Thomas Waring of Waringstown.
- 1725. John Bayly of Inishargie.
- 1726. Hon. Thomas Montgomery of Comber.
- 1727. Robert Lambert of Dunlady.
- 1728. Robert Needham of Newry.
- 1729. Mathew Forde of Seaforde.
- 1730. Edward "Bayley" of Ringdufferin.
- 1731. William Savage of Kirkistown Castle.
- 1732. Francis Savage of Ardkeen.
- 1733. John Donnelson Isaac of Holywood.
- 1734. Samuel Waring of Waringstown.
- 1735. Richard Johnston, jun. of Gilford.
- 1736. Samuel Close of Bannfield.
- 1737. Arthur Hill of Belvoir.
- 1738. Hill Wilson of Purdysburn.
- 1739. Francis Hall of Strangford.
- 1740. Roger Hall of Mount Hall.
- 1741. James Ross the younger, of Portavo.
- 1742. James Echlin of Rubane, now Echlinsville.
- 1743. Robert Maxwell of Finnebrogue.
- 1744. Chichester Fortescue of Dromiskin, Co. Louth.
- 1745. Samuel Hill of Strangford.
- 1746. Bernard Ward of Castleward.
- 1747. Simon Isaac of Holywood.
- 1748. John Bateman of Magherahinch, Moira.
- 1749. Sir John Rawdon, Bart., of Moira.
- 1750. Henry Waring, Waringsford.
- 1751. William Annesley of Clough, created Baron Glerawley.

- 1752. Mathew Forde of Seaforde.
- 1753. Francis Price, Saintfield.
- 1754. James Johnson of Rademon.
- 1755. William Montgomery of Greyabbey.
- 1756. Andrew John Mathews of Spring Vale.
- 1757. Hon. Henry Moore of Drumbanagher.
- 1758. John Echlin of Ardquin.
- 1759. Thomas Pottinger of Mountpottinger.
- 1760. Charles Douglas of Gracehall.
- 1761. Holt. Waring of Waringstown.
- 1762. Rob. Lambert Tate of Dunlady.
- 1763. Patrick Savage of Portaferry.
- 1764. Richard Magennis of Waringstown.
- 1765. Richard Johnston of Gilford.
- 1766. Nicholas Harrison of Oakley, Ballydargan, Killough.
- 1767. James Baillie, Innishargie.
- 1768. John Moore of Drumbanagher.
- 1769. John Kennedy of Cultra.
- 1770. Charles Savage, Ardkeen.
- 1771. Robert Ross, Rostrevor.
- 1772. James Waddell of Springfield, Dromore.
- 1773. Gawen Hamilton of Killileagh.
- 1774. Townly Blackwood of Castle Hill.
- 1775. Charles Innes of Dromantine.
- 1776. John Reilly of Scarva.
- 1777. Charles Echlin of Echlinvale.
- 1778. Daniel De la Cherois of Donaghadee.
- 1779. John Knox of Waringsford.
- 1780. Hill Wilson of Purdysburn.
- 1781. Cromwell Price of Hollymount.
- 1782. Thomas Douglas of Gracehall.
- 1783. Hon. Richard Annesley of Castlewellan.
- 1784. Arthur Johnston of Rademon.
- 1785. Lord Kilwarlin of Hillsborough.
- 1786. James Arbuckle of Maryvale, Donaghadee.



- 1787. George Hamilton of Tyrella.
- 1788. William Johnston of Gilford.
- 1789. James Watson Hull of Belvedere.
- 1790. Robert M'Leroth of Comber.
- 1791. Francis Savage of Turf Lodge.
- 1792. Hon. Robert Ward of Bangor.
- 1793. Henry Savage of Rock Savage.
- 1794. Hon. Vesey Knox of Newry.
- 1795. Roger Johnston Smyth of Ballykeel.
- 1796. Daniel Mussenden of Larchfield.
- 1797. Thomas Waring of Newry.
- 1798. Lord Charles Fitzgerald of Ardglass Castle, created  
Baron Lecale.
- 1799. Marcus Corry of Newry.
- 1800. Savage Hall of Narrow-water.
- 1801. Nicholas Price of Saintfield.
- 1802. Hugh Kennedy of Cultra.
- 1803. Mathew Forde of Seaforde and Ballee.
- 1804. Sir John Stevenson Blackwood of Ballyleidy.
- 1805. James Rose Cleland of Rathgael.
- 1806. Francis Turnley of Richmond Lodge.
- 1807. Ross Thomson of Greenwood Park, Newry.
- 1808. Andrew Savage of Portaferry.
- 1809. Robert Bateson of Orangefield.
- 1810. John Lushington Reilly of Scarva.
- 1811. William Sharman of Moira and Portadown.
- 1812. David Gordon of Florida.
- 1813. James Blackwood of Saintfield.
- 1814. Arthur Innes of Dromantine.
- 1815. William Edmund Reilly of Coolnacran, Loughbrickland.
- 1816. Roger Hall of Narrow-water.
- 1817. John Waring, Maxwell, Finnebrogue.
- 1818. Arthur Johnston Crawford, Crawfordsburn.
- 1819. Francis Savage, Hollymount.
- 1820. Matthew Forde, Seaforde.

- 1821. Nicholas de la Cherois Crommelin, Carradore Castle.
- 1822. Lord Viscount Glerawly of Castlewellan.
- 1823. Edward Southwell Ward of Castleward, afterwards  
Viscount Bangor.
- 1824. William Montgomery of Greyabbey.
- 1825. John M'Cance of Drumlough.
- 1826. John Holmes Houston of Greenville.
- 1827. John Echlin, Echlinville.
- 1828. Viscount Newry of Mourne Park.
- 1829. Daniel de la Cherois of Donaghadee.
- 1830. Nicholas Charles Whyte of Loughbrickland.
- 1831. William Mussenden of Larchfield.
- 1832. Arthur Innes of Dromantine.
- 1833. Robert Gordon of Florida.
- 1834. The Earl of Hillsborough, Hillsborough.
- 1835. Narcissus Batt of Purdysburn.
- 1836. Charles Douglas of Grace Hall.
- 1837. David Robert Ross of Rosstrevor.
- 1838. Thomas Johnston Smyth of Lisburn.
- 1839. John Sharman Crawford of Crawfordsburn, Bangor.
- 1840. Matthew Ford of Seaforde.
- 1841. David Stewart Ker of Montalto, resigned in May.
- 1841. Robert Percival Maxwell of Groomspoor.
- 1842. Robert Edward Ward of Bangor Castle.
- 1843. John Patrick Nugent of Portaferry.
- 1844. John Reid Allen, Mountpanther.
- 1845. Hugh Montgomery of Greyabbey.
- 1846. Robert Batt of Purdysburn.
- 1847. Thomas Morris Hamilton Jones of Moneyglass.
- 1848. Richard Blakiston Houston of Orangefield.
- 1849. William Keown of Ballydugan.
- 1850. Archibald Hamilton Rowan of Killileagh.
- 1851. Robert Heron of Ardigon.
- 1852. Samuel de la Cherois Crommelin, Carradore Castle.
- 1853. William Brownlow Forde of Seaforde.

- 1854. John Temple Reilly of Scarva House.
- 1855. Andrew Mulholland of Springvale.
- 1856. Francis Charles Leslie, Ballyward.
- 1857. John Andrews of Comber.
- 1858. Samuel Murland of Woodlands, Castewellan.
- 1859. J. Charles Price of Saintfield.
- 1860. John Blakiston Houston, Orangefield.
- 1861. Alexander John Robert Stewart of Ards House. County Donegal.
- 1862. John Joseph Whyte of Loughbrickland.
- 1863. Daniel Delacherois of Manor House, Donaghadee.
- 1864. Thomas M'Clure of Belmont, Belfast.
- 1865. Aubrey William Beauclerk of Ardglass Castle.
- 1866. John Cleland of Stormont Castle.
- 1867. Andrew Nugent of Castleward.
- 1868. John Mulholland of Craigavad.
- 1869. Major Madden Hall, Narrow-water.
- 1870. Mr. Robert N. Batt, Purdysburn.
- 1871. Lord Newry of Mourne Park.
- 1872. Mr. Robert F. Gordon, Florida Manor.
- 1873. Mr. John Percival Maxwell, Groomsport.
- 1874. Mr. Stephen Roland Woulf, of Strangford.

The railroads either traversing closely, or connected with the County of Down are the following :—

The Ulster Railway, which in its course to Portadown passes for the greater part of the distance on the border, and for a few miles within the confines, of the County of Down, the stations in succession from Belfast being at Balmoral, Dunmurry, Lisburn, Moira, Lurgan and Portadown, from which the Dublin and Belfast Junction Railway passes on to Goragh Wood and Drogheda, and thence by the Dublin and Drogheda Railway to Dublin. The Ulster Railway continues its course from Portadown to Clones, and the Omagh Railway also diverges at Portadown. The Banbridge Railway separates from the Ulster Railway near

Lisburn, and passing by the Hillsborough, Dromore and Mullafernaghan stations, terminates at Banbridge. The distance from Lisburn to Banbridge is about 13 miles.

The Antrim Railway diverges from the Ulster Railway near Lisburn.

The Banbridge Junction Railway forms a connection between the Banbridge Railway, and the Dublin and Belfast Junction Railroad, at Scarva. Its length is about five miles, with an intervening station at Laurencetown.

The Belfast and County of Down Railroad traverses the centre of the County, running past the stations of Knock and Belmont, Dundonald, Comber, Ballygowan, Saintfield, Ballinahinch Junction, Crossgar, and Downpatrick, and the communication is now further carried on by the Downpatrick and Newcastle Railway, to the latter town, passing by the stations of Tullymurry and Dundrum, the whole distance from Belfast being 40 miles.

The distance from the Junction to the town of Ballinahinch is about four miles. At Comber a branch diverges to Donaghadee, the intervening stations being Newtownards, and Groomsport Road.

The length of this branch is about 14 miles.

The Belfast, Holywood and Bangor Railroad skirts the shores of the Belfast Lough.

The stations are Belfast, Sydenham, Holywood, Marino, Cultra, Craigavad, Clandeboye, and Bangor. The distance between the two extremes is about fourteen miles.

A Railway very much required to complete the communication through the County, has been projected between Banbridge, Rathfriland, Castlewellan and Newcastle, and it is to be hoped, it will soon be carried into effect. A commencement of this undertaking was made some years ago, but turned out unsuccessfully.

There are first, second, and third class carriages on all the lines, and the average price per mile is respectively about 2d. in the first, 1½d. in the second, and 1d. in the third class.

The average rate of travelling is about 20 miles per hour.

A Central Railway is in progress, to connect the stations of the County Down, Holywood, and Ulster Railways, in the town of Belfast.

The Roads and Bridges are constructed and repaired, at the cost of a county rate, or cess, as it is more commonly termed, a word derived from the Irish Cios, (a tax), the necessary moneys being furnished by Grand Jury presentments.

The County is divided into two districts, the northern, under charge of the County Surveyor, Mr. Smyth, Civil Engineer, embraces the baronies of Lower Ards, Upper Ards, Lower Castlereagh, Upper Castlereagh, Dufferin, Lower Lecale, Upper Lecale, and Kinelarty; and the southern division allotted to Mr. Bernard Murray, comprises the baronies of Mourne, Upper Iveagh, Lower Iveagh, and the Lordship of Newry.

The town of Newry, by an act passed in 1871, was separated from the County Down, and it has a surveyor appointed for its own purposes. The act referred to contains provisions for the regulation of the markets, and the better supply of the town with water. There are good leading roads, and a sufficient number of cross-roads, to open up the county in all directions. They are, on the whole, kept in good repair, due skill being exhibited in their formation, and in attention to the most important points, such as the suitable direction, proper fencing, effective drainage, and the removal of mud from the surface, with sufficient elevation of the centre, to throw the water off to either side. From the conformation of the county, many of the roads are very hilly, but much has been done of late, in lowering the heights, filling up the hollows, and altering the direction, since it has become generally understood, that the distance is not generally increased by going round, instead of over the summit of a hill. All the more important roads will be found laid down on the accompanying map: and the bridges are referred to in connection with the rivers.

#### POST OFFICES.

Post Offices are now very numerous, having been established



not only in all the towns, but in many country places, at a distance from any town, including Annaclone, Annacloy, Ashfield, Ballee, Belmont, Ballymacarrett, Bishop's Court, Bright, Bryansford, Burren, Cloghey, Crawford's Burn, Derryboy, Dundonald, Dunmore, Katesbridge, Raholp, Kilmore, Kinallen, Lambeg, Leitrim, Mayo Bridge, Ballyaughlis, Riverstown, Priestland, The Maze, Toghblane, Ballygowan, Ballygraney, Ballyward, Ballyroney, Ballykilbeg, and perhaps a few others.

Telegraph and Money Order Offices have also been established in most of the Post-offices, in the several towns, including Ardglass, Ballynahinch, Banbridge, Bangor, Castlewellan, Clough, Comber, Crossgar, Donaghadee, Downpatrick, Dundrum, Dunmurry, Gilford, Hillsborough, Holywood, Greyabbey, Kilkeel, Killough, Killyleigh, Kircubbin, Moira, New Castle, Newry, Newtownards, Portaferry, Poyntspass, Rostrevor, Rathfriland, Saintfield, and Strangford.

The scale of payment for a telegram is one shilling, for the first twenty words, and three pence for every additional five words.

The rates of postage for inland letters, including the Isle of Man, and the Channel Islands, are as follow :—

LETTERS, prepaid, not exceeding one ounce in weight, 1d. ; not exceeding two ounces, 1½d. ; not exceeding four ounces, 2d. ; not exceeding six ounces, 2½d. ; exceeding six ounces and not exceeding eight ounces in weight, 3d. ; not exceeding ten ounces, 3½d. ; not exceeding twelve ounces in weight, 4d. ; exceeding twelve ounces, for the first ounce, and for every additional ounce, or fractional part of an ounce, 1d.

NEWSPAPERS.—*Prepaid rate.*—One halfpenny.

BOOKS.—The postage is one halfpenny for every 2 oz., or fraction of that weight. The postage must be prepaid.

INLAND PATTERN AND SAMPLE POST.—The postage is one halfpenny, for every weight of 2 oz., or fraction of that weight, restricted to *bona fide trade patterns, or samples of merchandise.*

Although the rates of postage are generally known, they may have some interest hereafter, as materials for comparison.

In nothing has a more remarkable change taken place, in recent times, than in the transmission of intelligence, both through the telegraph and post office, offering a remarkable contrast to the period, when occasionally a letter addressed from Glasgow did not reach Belfast, until after the lapse of a week. In those days travelling was equally slow, as illustrated by the letter of a merchant who, in writing from Scotland, thus expressed himself :—" I expect to be in Glasgow on Tuesday next, and to reach Donaghadee or Holywood, by Saturday or Sunday." And on another occasion, it happened to the writer of the present work, when on the way to school in England, to take passage at Belfast, in one of the old trading vessels, and between contrary winds and other obstructions, the ship had only reached Carrickfergus, on the ninth day after leaving port. At another time, twenty-four hours were occupied in a voyage from Portpatrick to Donaghadee, in one of the sailing packets, which carried the mail on that station.

Trading vessels leaving Belfast, in some instances, occupied three weeks or a month in reaching Liverpool, and occasionally, six weeks in reaching the anchorage in the Downs.

Equally great changes have taken place in the manner of travelling. Within the memory of many living persons, the saddle, for men, and the pillion or side saddle for females, were almost exclusively in use. These were followed by the low-wheeled springless car, cushioned for convenience : but in the present day, every one pretending to respectability has substituted the jaunting car, or a four-wheeled vehicle, for the more primitive modes of conveyance. Amongst the gentry, however, in Down, as in other places, every description of modern carriage is in use.

The municipal affairs of the several principal towns are administered variously, under the relevant acts of parliament affecting each, most of them having adopted the Towns' Improvement Acts.

Head distributors of Stamps reside in Newry, Downpatrick and Belfast ; and sub-distributors in the towns of Ballinahinch, Banbridge, Castlewellan, Comber, Crossgar, Dromore, Hillsborough,

Kilkeel, Killyleagh, Newtownards, Portaferry, Rathfriland, and Saintfield.

### MILITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

The men of Down are generally well built, possessed of much strength and endurance, and they consequently make good soldiers. With reference to the strength of Irishmen, we may advert to the opinion of Mr. Field the Architect, calculated from an actual survey of the relative power of raising weights, possessed by the natives of England, Wales, and Ireland. His estimate is, that the force of the English labourer being taken as 24.255, that of the Welsh labourer is 15.112, whilst that of the Irish labourer is 27.562, so far shewing a material preponderance in the physical powers of the Irishman.

Various military forces have been organized in the county, from time to time.

The County Down forms a part of the Dublin or northern military district. Under recent arrangements, one of the places selected as a Brigade depot is Downpatrick, the force to be quartered there consisting of the 83rd (Dublin), and 86th line battalions, with the associated corps of the Antrim, and North, and South Down regiments of Militia.

The 86th or Royal County Down regiment was first raised in this County. Their cognizance is the Harp and Crown, with the motto, *Quis separabit?* They bear on their colours "Egypt," with the Sphinx, the terms "India," "Bourbon," and "Central India." Their uniform, like other royal regiments, is scarlet and blue.

At a recent inspection at the Cape of Good Hope, this regiment received a very high compliment from Lieutenant General Sir A. Cunynghame. Addressing Colonel Jerome, his Excellency said, that he had had nearly every regiment of infantry in her Majesty's service, at one time or another, under his command, and that he had never inspected "a handsomer, more athletic, and more active body of men" in his life. He also complimented the men

highly, on the precision and steadiness of their manœuvring, efficiency, and readiness for active service, whenever called upon.

The militia regiments of the county are the 77th, or Royal North Down Rifles, and the 112th, or Royal South Down Light Infantry. The uniform of the former is rifle green, with scarlet facings, and of the latter, scarlet faced with blue. They are usually called out once a year for the purpose of being drilled, the first at Newtownards, and the second at Downpatrick.

In 1793, The Royal Downshire Militia, then numbered as the 9th, was officered as follows :—

Colonel—Arthur Marquis of Downshire.

Lieut-Colonel—Francis Earl Annesley.

Major—George Matthews.

Captains—The Hon. Robert Ward.

Cromwell Price,  
Francis Savage,  
Andrew Savage,  
Robert Waddell,  
David H. Boyd,  
Edward Southwell Trotter,  
John Read,  
Andrew M. Trevor.

Captain-Lieutenant—Benjamin Nevin.

Lieutenants—John Harrison,  
Robert Montgomery,  
William Baily,  
Henry Savage,  
Baptist Johnstone,  
Richard Fetherston,  
William Frew,  
William Martin,  
David Boyd,  
J. Tipping Smith,

John Crozier,  
John Keown,  
William Johnston.

Ensigns—Leonard Dobbin,

J. Martin,  
Clifford Trotter,  
David Lindsay,  
Pringle Hall,  
W. W. Read,  
Robert Bradford,  
John Gordon.

Chaplain—The Rev. Holt Waring.

Adjutant—John Harrison.

Quarter-Master—Wm. Martin.

Surgeon—B. Wilson.

Mate—Leonard Dobbin.

During the Crimean War, the South Down Regiment, then under the command of the Marquis of Downshire, volunteered for foreign service, but it was not found necessary to take advantage of their gallant offer. The staff of the regiment, formerly stationed in Hillsborough, is now quartered in Downpatrick, and the Royal North Down corps is stationed at Newtownards.

Von Dahlberg, a distinguished Prussian artillery officer, and author, thus writes of the Irish Militias and Constabulary :—

“Ireland has given England some of her best regiments, as well as some world-renowned generals. There is one Irish force in particular, whose fame is world-wide—I allude to the Royal Irish Constabulary. This magnificent force is, with the exception of the Royal Guards, the finest corps in the British service. It has long been distinguished for its superb physique, excellent discipline, intrepidity, gallantry, and fidelity. Courage is a quality that runs congenial to the Irish nation.”

The Honorary Colonel of the Downshire militia regiments is the Earl of Dufferin.

The Royal North Down regiment is commanded by Lieutenant



Colonel Commandant John Craig, and the Royal South Down, by Lieutenant Colonel Commandant William Brownlow Forde.

In former days Sir John Magill raised a regiment for the service of William III., about which time, 1689, a Captain Hugh Magill fell in an action with the Irish Army near Portglenone. Sir Arthur Rawdon, a nephew of Earl Conway, was Colonel of a regiment of dragoons, also raised in the County of Down. In 1647, several regiments were raised in Lecale, one of which was stationed in Dundalk, then a frontier town. Nicholas Price, who was member of Parliament for the County, in 1695, was a distinguished general in the army of King William III.

In 1797 the Lord Lieutenant of the time highly commended the members of the volunteer force, both in Antrim and Down, for their loyalty.

At present there are no volunteer corps in the County, the Government having seen reason for declining to sanction the formation of this kind of force. In days gone by, however, there were various corps of yeomanry, both of horse and foot, in the County of Down, which on many occasions did good service to their county.

In 1760, when Thurot landed at Carrickfergus, the Seaforde volunteers, numbering 144 men, under their Commander Colonel Forde marched as far as Belfast, on their way to assist, if required, in repelling the invaders, and when the French were taken prisoners, the Dromore volunteers armed with backswords and pikes, under Captain Stothard and Waddell, guarded them to Banbridge.

In the Rebellion of 1798 the Hillsborough yeomanry cavalry were engaged at the Battle of Ballinahinch, in which the insurgents were defeated, and other volunteer corps were employed there also.

**COAST GUARD.** The coast from Belfast to Newry is divided into three districts, for the prevention of smuggling. The three divisional commanders are all officers in the Royal Navy, and reside respectively, at Newcastle, Strangford, and Donaghadee. The Coast-guard stations, with barracks for the accommodation of the

men quartered in each district, are Ardglass, Bangor, Donaghadee, Newcastle, Roddens, Ballyhalbert, Groomsport, Ballywalter, Cloghy, and Tara ; to which we may add Strangford, Killard, Gun's island, Dundrum, William's Harbour, Annalong, Tyrella, Leestone, and a few others. Cranfield Point and Killowen stations are in the Carlingford district.

The coast line is also divided into three insurance districts, the agents for Lloyd's residing respectively at Belfast, Warrenpoint and Newry.

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## PART II.

# ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

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### CHAPTER V.

#### Church History.

THE earliest religious history of the County of Down probably, in great measure, corresponds with that of the other parts of the Kingdom, although concerning the pre-Christian and Pagan era. we know little or nothing, and even the exact mode and time of the introduction of Christianity have formed a subject of controversy to the present hour. The conversion of the inhabitants of the North of Ireland is believed to have taken place in the fifth century, before the end of which Christianity had made some progress, as we find that Palladius had been sent by Pope Celestine to the Irish believing in Christ. in the year 431. Some, however, affirm that the Christian religion was introduced a century before the arrival of Palladius, and Betham asserts,\* but on no sufficient authority, that the first apostle of Ireland was Patrick the Roman Briton, centuries before the year 431. But there is satisfactory evidence, that St. Patrick, whose arrival in Ireland took place early in the fifth century, was the great agent in the general conversion of the people, especially in the counties of Down and Antrim ; and although his labours, and even his very existence have been questioned by some, and positively denied by others, they are well enough authenticated to gain the assent of all, except the unreasonably and pertinaciously sceptical. nor do we think

\* Betham's Irish Antiquarian Researches.

that the speculations of Ledwich and Ryves are sufficient to outweigh the authority of the Book of Armagh, and other reliable documents. The doctrines first promulgated have been equally a subject of dispute, St. Patrick being claimed both by the Irish and Roman Catholic Churches, as a supporter of their dogmas. Without entering into the controversy at any length, we are warranted in asserting, that the primitive tenets and discipline of the Irish Church differed materially from those of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy in the present day. In proof of this assertion, it is enough to refer to the administration of the communion in both kinds, the unrestricted use of the sacred writings, the intercession of Christ, and the supreme authority of the Scriptures, as sufficiently distinctive of the Protestant from the Roman Catholic Church, whilst the discharge of parochial duties by the earlier bishops, the marriage of the clergy, the omission of any reference to the mass, the diversity of forms observed in the performance of divine worship, and the absence of any recognition of transubstantiation, purgatory, and papal supremacy and infallibility, constitute other broad lines of difference.\*

The claims of both Churches therefore cannot be reasonably maintained, unless on the supposition, as urged by some writers, that there were two St. Patricks, and that the doctrines and alleged miracles of the one, have been attributed to the other. The mode of Church government then, as now, was we think certainly episcopal. Palladius, before he left Rome, was consecrated a Bishop, and St. Patrick, prior to his setting forth on his mission, underwent a similar ceremony in Gaul. There is, moreover, good ground for believing, that the early Christian Church in Ireland was not, at any time, without Bishops, whose order and superiority, as compared with presbyters, was fully acknowledged; but it must at the same time be admitted, that the episcopate of these days did not, as in more recent times, imply the establishment of permanent sees, presided over by

\* Reid's History of the Presbyterian Church, and King's History of Ireland.

a regular succession of bishops, clothed with territorial jurisdiction. Nor was there any uniformity in the mode of celebrating divine worship, in the numerous dioceses then existing, as each had a peculiar liturgy of its own, and although agreeing generally with the English hierarchy, the Irish clergy dissented from them in some material respects, the principal of which was their determined opposition to the authority of the Pope. Various minor points of difference also existed, but it will suffice to refer to the long and acrimonious disputes which took place, regarding the correct form of the clerical tonsure, and the proper time for observing the festival of Easter. Prior to the arrival of the English in Ireland, considerable obscurity exists regarding the succession of Bishops, and the number of sees, which appears to have been excessive, whilst the provision made for the maintenance of the prelates was scanty in the extreme, consisting principally of the produce of their farms, supplemented by a portion of the Church's oblations. It is true that the payment of tithes was enjoined by the ancient canons of the Irish Church, and the Council of Kells, but the laws on the subject were laxly enforced, and in point of fact, up to the twelfth century, no payment of this impost appears to have been made. At this period the whole revenue of the Church was divided into five parts, one for the Bishop, one for the Clergy, one for the poor, one for supporting the fabric of the Church, and the fifth for miscellaneous purposes. This revenue was made up by voluntary contributions, under the appellation of oblations, which included the first fruits, altarge, mortuary obventions, and other spontaneous offerings. In process of time, however, the tithes were acquired by the clergy, as well as certain tracts of land, which, under the barbarous appellations of termon, corbe, herenagh, and other uncouth terms, were appropriated to the support of the Church.

Up to the fifteenth century, the bishops were principally elected from the fraternity of monks, and they were expected to wear the habits peculiar to their order. The mode of their appointment varied, some being elected by papal provision, some by choice of



the clergy, and some by the crown. After the Norman invasion the jurisdiction of the bishops, and the extent of their dioceses came gradually to be more strictly defined, and with the increase of importance and amount of duty, the means of support were augmented in various ways, but especially by grants made by the owners of secular property ; and in the time of James the First, all ecclesiastical lands were ordered to be restored to the respective sees, and to the churches from which they had been alienated. The Bishops were required to resign to the incumbents of the several parishes, the tithes which they had been receiving as inappropriate, obtaining however for the surrender, ample compensation from the King's lands. Nor were the claims of the inferior clergy overlooked in other respects, as glebes, varying in extent from sixty to one hundred acres, were appropriated to their use.\* For a long period the Irish Church resisted all attempts at papal innovations, and maintained its independence, in despite of the efforts of the Roman Pontiffs, to bring it under their jurisdiction, and it was not until the 12th century, that it at last became subject to the Roman see. The supremacy of Adrian the IV., it is true, was formally recognized in the year 1152, by the council of the clergy assembled at Kells ; but the measures contemplated by that Pontiff were only gradually carried into effect, some of them being strongly opposed both by the inferior clergy and native chieftains, and especially the proposal for the reduction of Bishoprics, which at that time probably amounted to upwards of three hundred, in the entire kingdom.

During the long night of intellectual darkness which supervened on the decay of the Roman Empire, between the fifth and eleventh centuries, Ireland became the principal sanctuary of learning and scriptural instruction in Europe, and her schools sent forth well taught missionaries, to promulgate that purer form of doctrine,

\* Gordon's History of Ireland, vol. i., p. 322.  
 Reeves' Ecclesiastical History, p. 162.  
 Ulster Journal of Archaeology, vol. i., p. 70.  
 King's History of the Irish Church, vol. i.

which they had eagerly embraced, when first preached in their own kingdom. D'Aubigne states that the school of Iona was an educational missionary establishment, founded by Irishmen for the benefit of Britain, and sustained by the Irish Church, being the centre from which the learned Scotchmen of the dark ages went forth as teachers to the continent. Here the distinguished writer has fallen into the common error, regarding the Scotch and northern Irish, which we have already explained. as the latter and not the former furnished those zealous missionaries, whose persevering labours spread a knowledge of the gospel and a taste for letters, not only amongst the English and Saxons, and the Picts of North Briton, but also amongst the Franks of Gaul, and the inhabitants of Switzerland, and the valleys of the Alps, where they survive to this day. The Scandinavians of Iceland, and the inhabitants of Flanders, Germany, and Italy, were alike indebted to the Irish for their most accomplished teachers.\*

Pope Adrian, who claimed the sovereignty of Ireland, conferred it on Henry the Second of England, on the condition of his reducing the Church to conformity, and to that unqualified submission to the supremacy of the Pontiff, which had hitherto been only partially, and reluctantly accorded. The Bull of Alexander III. had a similar object, viz.: to have the Acts of the Synod of Kells carried out by force of arms, and to bring Ireland into subjection to England, under papal donation. In the course of a century, therefore, the distinctive characters of the Irish Church had disappeared, and it became entirely assimilated to the other Churches of the Papacy, and for several centuries subsequently, clerical insubordination, corruption, and immorality, prevailed. A striking instance of the gross laxity of the times was exhibited in the necessity, after previous admonition, of inflicting the disgraceful punishment of deprivation on John Celey, a native of England, and the last Bishop of Down, before its union with the

\* Mrs. Webb's Annotations on D'Aubigne's Sketch of the Early British Church.

Diocese of Connor ; the final cause of his disgrace being open and unblushing immorality. In the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Queen Elizabeth, measures were successfully adopted for overthrowing the authority of the Pope, and introducing the doctrines and discipline of the Reformed Church. In the year 1536, the supremacy of the King was legally established in Dublin, that of the Papal Pontiff having been previously abolished. In the time of Edward VI., English Bibles were placed in every parish Church, and communion in both kinds was substituted for the mass. A Book of Common Prayer was also compiled, and the liturgy was read in English. Still the efforts of that monarch proved less successful in Ireland, than in England, as he was not supported either by the nobility or the people, and under Queen Mary, the Roman Catholic religion was formally restored. After her demise, the Protestant forms were introduced in 1650, but as the public service was performed in Latin, in place of the native Irish, and the provision for the clergy was totally inadequate, many of the Churches became dilapidated, and the progress of the Reformation was necessarily retarded. As early as 1615, however the Church had attained such a degree of stability, that a Convocation was assembled. The different sees were all now filled with Protestant Bishops, and it had consequently become important that a declaration of its faith should be formally made, and that the mode of its future government should be regularly established. In this first convocation, therefore, a confession, containing one hundred and four articles, was drawn up, the leading propositions in which are described by Reid, as being equally Calvinistic with the Westminster Confession of Faith. Amongst various other tenets, these articles included an assertion of the morality of the Sabbath, a condemnation of the doctrine of absolution, whilst the forgiveness of sins by the clergy was laid down as being only declaratory, and Lent was disclaimed as a religious fast.\* The Pope was further pronounced to be

\* Reid's History, vol. i. p. 98.

Antichrist, nor was any allusion made to the mode of consecrating the higher orders of the clergy. The Confession, which may be seen, in extenso, in Neale's History of the Puritans, formed a settlement comprehensive enough to embrace all faithful ministers of the gospel, as neither forcing them to submit to ceremonies held to be objectionable, nor depriving them of their functions, if not free to comply with all the minute arrangements of discipline and worship then established in England. And the result was that many Episcopal ministers removed to this Kingdom, and especially to Ulster.

In 1635, the Thirty-nine Articles of the English Church were received in Ireland, and by a proclamation of James I., the popish clergy were commanded to conform to the law, or to depart from the Kingdom; but at the same time the exercise of their religion was connived at. During the reign of Elizabeth, the Reformation had made little progress in Ireland, except in some of the principal cities. Du Pin represents the inhabitants, as tenaciously adhering to the Romish doctrines, whilst a deplorable account of the paucity and incompetency of the Protestant clergy is subsequently given by Henry Lesley, the Bishop of Down, who asserts that divine service had not been performed in many of the parish churches for years together; and by an inquisition taken in 1657, it appeared, that only seventeen churches in the diocese were in good, or tolerable repair, whilst another report informs us, that of one hundred and twelve churches, all but ten were in ruins. The following picture of the condition of the Irish Church is thus drawn by Archdeacon Mant, in terms little more favourable than those of Froude: "It is hardly possible to imagine anything more melancholy, in a country supposed to be Christian, than the condition of the diocese at the end of the 16th, and beginning of the 17th centuries. The whole county had been in a state of continual warfare and bloodshed, owing to the determined but vain struggles of the Irish chieftains to regain possession from the British sovereign, and the consequence appears to have been, a complete overthrow of all order, and civil and ecclesiastical

rule, so that although the authority of the Pope had been rejected, and the Reformation generally accepted, there is reason to think, that, in point of fact, this Diocese was in the lowest state of degradation.”\*

And that this reprehension was not undeserved will fully appear, from the following, amongst other instances of immorality.

Thomas Hackett, a Bishop of Down, was subjected to deprivation for simony, and other offences, and a like punishment was inflicted on Thomas Ward, Dean of Connor, and on Archibald Matthews, who had not appeared within his diocese for twenty years, and sold his benefices to the highest bidder. In the minutes of a “*visitatio specialis*” of the see of Down and Connor, in 1693, the sentence of dismissal is recorded against two of the clergy of the diocese as being “*habitual drunkards*,” and a third was censured for a kindred fault, being as the sentence stated ‘*deditus vino*.’ And in an entry of the mode, in which the duties were generally discharged, the decision was, that a few were ‘*monendi ob neglectum*,’ others ‘*ob intemperantiam*,’ and one ‘*excommunicandum ob absentiam*,’ whilst the records against others are severally “*suspendi et monendi*,” “*deprivandi*,” and “*symonarii compurgandi*.” At the same time it is satisfactory to observe, that in the midst of these unfaithful servants of the Church, the great majority of the Clergy had discharged their duties in a correct and praiseworthy manner, having, in the rescript of their diocesan, the creditable affix of ‘*laudandi*’ appended to their names.†

The picture of the laity at this period, as drawn by Stuart, a Presbyterian minister, is very unfavourable, and is to the following effect :—During the various wars and insurrections of the previous century, the population of Down and Antrim had been much thinned, but it was increased by the immigration of the very numerous followers of the original proprietors, both from England

\* Memoirs of Bishop Mant, by his Son, Archdeacon of Down, 1857.

† Ancient MS. procured from Dr. Knox, Lord Bishop of Down.



and Scotland, men generally of low character and desperate fortune, seeking shelter from debt, or the vengeance of the law. "On all hands," says Stewart, "atheism increased, and disregard of God, iniquity with contention, fighting, murder, and adultery prevailed." The description of Stuart is generally confirmed by Blair, another minister of the same creed; but of course there were many exceptions, in persons distinguished both for parts, education, and character.\* "When nothing," Stewart adds, "but God's judgment might have been expected, the Lord visited them in admirable mercy, in which he employed the band of faithful ministers, (some of them men of distinction), who were encouraged to take their lot in Ulster. Amongst these settled in Down was Robert Cunningham, admitted to the ministry by Bishop Echlin in 1615, who was maintained in his office of Curate of Holywood and Craigavad, by a stipend from Sir James Hamilton. About the same time, the celebrated Rober Blair, above mentioned, came over from Scotland, and was settled in Bangor, on invitation of Lord Clandeboy,† in which the Incumbent, Mr. Gibson, the first Protestant Dean of Down, acquiesced. To meet Mr. Blair's scruples, with regard to ordination, Bishop Echlin, in conjunction with Mr. Cunningham and other clergymen, ordained him in 1623. Subsequently Blair induced Mr. Hamilton, a nephew of Lord "Claneboy," to enter the ministry, and he also was ordained by the same Bishop, to Ballywalter. These three devoted clergymen in the County of Down, with Brice, Hubbard, Glendinning, and, Ridge in Antrim, all Calvinistic in their views, and non-conformists, were the founders of Presbyterianism in Ulster. But they did not stand alone, as most of the Northern Clergy at that time, as stated by Reid, conformed only so far, as to afford them security and maintenance under the legal establishment. In some Dioceses this was all that was necessary, but when stricter conformity was required by succeeding prelates, canonical obedience

\* Reid's History, vol. i. p. 98.

† History by the Rev. Wm. Stuart from 1645 to 1671.

was yielded with reluctance, and many of the clergy, in the seclusion of their parishes, adhered to the Presbyterian forms. But rigid discipline soon began to be exercised against the more uncomplying, and Henry Lesley, and Mr. John Maxwell, as well as Bishop Echlin became opposed to them, and the depositions from the ministry became numerous, including Blair, Livingstone, Melvin, Dunbar, Welsh, Bruce, Ridge, Cunningham, Calvert, Hamilton and others. Michael Bruce, who was settled at Killinchy, was a lineal descendant from John de Bruce, uncle of the Bruce of Bannockburn, and Josias Welsh was a grandson of John Knox. Both Welsh and Livingstone were ordained by Knox, Bishop of Raphoe, for certain Bishops of the Episcopal Church took part with the Presbyterian ministers, in administering the rite of ordination; and although Bishop Mant questions the fact of the ceremony being performed in this conjoint manner, we think his opinion rests on no sufficient grounds, and that the evidence on the point is conclusive.\*

Under Charles I. a commission was issued by Wentworth, which gave authority to the Bishop of Down, to arrest and imprison, during pleasure, the Non-conformists in his Diocese, under cover of which, much harshness and severity were exercised. All the Scottish residents in Ulster had been required to conform to the Ritual of the Established Church, and to take the celebrated adjuration known by the name of the Black Oath, "requiring fealty to King Charles, and renunciation of the Covenant." The majority yielded a reluctant compliance, but great numbers refused their assent, and they were consequently visited with the heaviest penalties of the law. Some were heavily fined, numbers imprisoned, including Semple, Blair, Livingstone, Hamilton and other ministers; whilst some escaped to Scotland, and of those who remained, several were dragged to prison in Dublin, and elsewhere,†

\* Mant's History of the Church of Ireland, vol. i., p. 453. See also Adair, pp. 14 and 16, and Leland's History.

† Reid's History of the Presbyterian Church, vol. i.

and not liberated until after the execution of Wentworth. The Presbyterians, however, still persevered in an unalterable attachment to their faith, though no longer having the support of Lord "Claneboye," who took part in enforcing compliance with the oath of conformity.\*

In consequence of the rigid measures adopted against them, a number formed the design of emigrating to New England, and having built a ship called the *Eagle's Wing*, at Groomsport, sailed from "Lochfergus" in 1636, but encountering bad weather, and having sprung a leak, they eventually decided on returning to Ireland.

In 1623, stringent measures were taken against the Roman Catholic population; and in consequence of their alleged disloyalty, all priests of that denomination were ordered to depart from the kingdom. In 1642, however, when again in the ascendant, a general assembly of Roman Catholic lords and delegates ordained, that all the church possessions of the Protestant ministry should be deemed to belong to the Roman Catholic clergy, thus at once transferring the entire ecclesiastical property from the one church to the other, and demanding at the same time, that all restrictions on their own religion should be made void by act of parliament. In the unsettled state of affairs, which existed in the following year, the British forces of Down and Antrim took the field against the rebels, and they maintained a decided superiority in Ulster. About this period the Irish Presbyterians requested the Scottish authorities to administer the Covenant in that province, and this was done in all places, to their great satisfaction, with renewed attachment to the religion of their forefathers. In 1644, a meeting of presbyters took place in Bangor, where some of the clergy, who persevered in enforcing the services of the episcopal church, in opposition to the wishes of the people, were removed by the presbytery, and ministers more acceptable were appointed to

\* Carte's Ormond, vol. i, 17, and  
Eccles. History, fol. iii., p. 663.

succeed them. Others of the clergy took the covenant, and conformed to the Presbyterian usages, laying aside, or only sparingly making use of, the book of Common Prayer. At the same time they formed themselves into presbyteries, exclusively clerical in their constitution, as they admitted no Ruling Elders, nor did they hold any converse with the regular presbytery, which was accustomed to meet at Carrickfergus, or acknowledge subjection to any other church judicature, thus adopting, in point of fact, a discipline intermediate between the episcopal and presbyterian forms.

On the partial cessation of hostilities between the king and parliament, a change took place in the relative position of the different religious denominations. The episcopal church was now overthrown and desolate; few of her clergy, and none of her prelates, remained in the provinces, and of course her religious services were neglected; whilst by the influence and labours of the chaplains of the Scottish regiments, the Presbyterian church was consolidated, and in a great measure assumed that form, both in doctrine and discipline, which it retains to the present time. The first regularly constituted presbytery, in this country, was held, at Carrickfergus in 1662. The meetings consisted of five ministers, who were chaplains to the Scotch regiments, then lying in head quarters at Newtownards, and four ruling elders, who accompanied them. They appointed a Moderator, and Clerk of Presbytery, and Elders were chosen in Ballywalter, Portaferry, Newtownards, Donaghadee, Killyleagh, Comber, Holywood, and Bangor, and in other places outside the county. The petition of the Presbyterians, to the general assembly, for preachers was favourably received, and complied with; and the ministers sent over assisted them in the revival of the strict doctrines of the church to which they belonged.

Their numbers were at the same time strengthened by the addition of refugees from Scotland, flying before the forces of Montrose, and they received further countenance from the Commissioners despatched from the English Court, whilst many of

their ministers received allowances from the Commonwealth, varying from £50 to £150.

Their cause, however, received a check in 1646. owing to the defeat of the combined British and Scotch forces, at Benburb. Subsequently rigorous measures were adopted against them by Cromwell, and Venables imprisoned in Belfast several ministers, who officiated in the County of Down.

On the whole, however, the Presbyterian cause had gained strength during the Commonwealth, and at the period of the revolution its members probably constituted the majority of the Protestant inhabitants, in both Down and Antrim.

At this time, the population of the entire Kingdom was estimated by Lord Macaulay at 1,200,000, of whom one million were Roman Catholics, and the remainder Protestants of different denominations.

After the death of Charles the First, the Presbyterians who had protested against his murder, favoured the upholding of a hereditary monarchy, limited with additional securities for religion. In 1660, the Presbyterians, who had promoted, as far as in their power, the restoration of Charles the Second, petitioned that monarch for the re-establishment of their own form of religion, but he decided on the restoration of Episcopacy, and confirmed to the various adventurers in Ireland, agreeably to acts made in former reigns, the right to hold free, in common soccage, the lands which they had acquired, assenting, at the same time, to all improper and forfeited tithes and glebes at his disposal, to be granted in free soccage also. The Presbyterians had, however, become an important body, as there were seventy ministers, comprising five presbyteries, which held monthly meetings, subordinate, however, to an annual Synodical Meeting, their discipline being entirely conformable to that of their parent church in Scotland. But evil days were approaching, and Henry Lesley, who was greatly opposed to the Presbyterian body, had now returned to the diocese of Down. He suspended several of the clergy, and imprisoned sixty ministers, in the space of four years, and



Jeremy Taylor, who succeeded Lesley in the see, removed thirty-six clergymen at a single visitation. The test at this time proposed to the ministers was a profession, before the congregation, of a full acceptance of an unrevised Prayer Book. Of the seventy ministers then in Ulster, eight only accepted the Bishop's terms, and received ordination, and after a short time numbers ceased to preach. Amongst the ejected clergy, were Andrew Stuart, Michael Bruce, Henry Livingston, and many other members of the Presbytery of Down, whilst some were imprisoned, and a few only were permitted to remain.

Some change for the better took place in 1674, when Bishop Boyle was prohibited by the Primate, from taking penal proceedings. This afforded them some temporary relief, but in 1679 and subsequently, many were subjected to heavy fines, incurred in the Bishop's Court, or excommunicated, for refusing to attend the established churches, or to execute the office of Churchwarden. In 1685, the Presbyterians combined with the Episcopalians, in opposition to James the Second, although the declaration of that monarch for liberty of conscience had afforded them some relief. He had, however, repealed the Act of Settlement, and passed an act of attainder, by which many were affected, including amongst others the following clergy in Down, viz. :—Charles Ward of Killough, Charles Coslet, John Macneal of Down, and Archdeacon Matthews.

For a long period the Protestant clergy were not entitled to receive tithes, except from persons of their own religious persuasion, and they were consequently left in a state of almost utter destitution.

Another great hardship consisted in preventing them from attending any churches not situated in the parishes, in which they were resident, and as there was often only one church, in two, or even three parishes, the restriction amounted in many cases to a total prohibition, not to add, that in various instances, the churches were appropriated by the Roman Catholics to their own use.

After the arrival of King William, in opposition to his views, and to the advice of his prime minister, the Duke of Newcastle, and

the excellent Archbishop Boulter, measures the most intolerant were adopted against the dissenters, and, to use the language of Froude, "The Bishops became absentees, the spiritual patronage of the Government was used for political purposes; the small church population was utterly neglected; the Protestant Nonconformists were incapacitated from holding public employments, their marriages were declared invalid, they were forbidden to open a school, and finally were driven, in the beginning of the eighteenth century, to people the American seaboard with fresh colonies of bitter enemies to England."

In 1697, an act was passed to prevent Protestants in Ireland from intermarrying with Papists.

In 1689, of ninety-one Presbyterian ministers, nineteen were located in the County of Down, and in 1690, a measure of the utmost importance to this body took place. This was the grant of the Royal Bounty, made by King William at Hillsborough, afterwards confirmed by letters patent, and continued by Queen Anne and her successors. Another measure of much consequence to the Presbyterian body was the passing of the toleration act, the oath of supremacy having been abolished in Ireland, and thenceforward, notwithstanding occasional impediments, it continued to advance. By a statute of Queen Anne, all persons in office, including Presbyterian preachers, were required to take the oath of abjuration, and the requisition was very generally complied with.

In 1714, by the passing of the sacramental and test acts, many Presbyterian magistrates were deprived of the commission of the peace, and excluded from all corporate offices. This enactment caused the greatest controversy, the test having the powerful advocacy of Dean Swift, whilst its opponents included the name of De Foe, the author of *Robinson Crusoe*, a writer of equal celebrity.

The passing of a bill, for the prevention of schism, was followed by proceedings against the Presbyterians, and their churches in Rathfryland and Downpatrick, with others in the County of

Antrim, were closed. In the early history of Presbyterianism, a verbal, and afterwards, a written assent to the Westminster Confession of Faith was required from every minister, a regulation, however, which subsequently lapsed, being opposed by the Rev. John Abernethy and others. Arian tenets, approaching the doctrines of Hoadly, at this time began to spread rapidly, and their advocates, familiarly termed "New Light Presbyterians," gradually gained an ascendancy in the Synod of Ulster, which was maintained for many years.

Arian principles, however, at this period, were not confined to the Presbyterian Church, as a number of episcopal clergy had, some openly, and others tacitly, embraced similar views. In the beginning of the nineteenth century, more orthodox opinions began to prevail. The sermon of Dr. William Bruce of Belfast, which was the first printed avowal and defence of Arianism, was ably replied to, by the Reverend John Paul of Carrickfergus, in his "Refutation" of the Unitarian tenets, held by many of the Presbyterian body, which were also, most ably and perseveringly, attacked by the Reverend Doctor Henry Cooke, a man of great talent, at that time resident in Killyleagh, who, after a long struggle, in which he was ably opposed by Dr. Montgomery and others, succeeded in passing by large majorities in the Synod, a series of resolutions, which had the practical effect of excluding from that body, all ministers holding Unitarian doctrines. They consequently separated from the Synod in 1839, forming themselves into a distinct body, termed the Remonstrant Synod. In his conflicts with Arianism, Dr. Cooke had the influential support of many of the laity, and especially of Sidney Hamilton Rowan, the son of Archibald Hamilton Rowan, of Killyleagh Castle. In 1750 the Widows' Fund, subsequently incorporated by the 15th Vic. c. 112, was originated, and it now admits of the payment of £34 to the widow of each deceased minister, and of £10 to each of his children up to a certain age.

In the time of George II. the Roman Catholics, previously entitled to vote under certain restrictions, were entirely deprived

of the elective franchise, a measure to a considerable extent affecting the parliamentary constituency in Down, as in other counties. In 1778, an act was passed, empowering members of this religious persuasion to acquire full property in land, and they were thus freed from the vexatious law, under which a son might force a settlement from his father, by conforming to the religion of the State.

In 1782, the Irish, now relieved from the supervision of the English parliament, passed an act, legalizing the marriage of Protestant Dissenters, solemnized by their own ministers: and also another act, subsequently extended to other sects, authorizing Seceders to swear with uplifted hands: but they were restricted from giving evidence in criminal cases, from serving on juries, and from holding office under the crown, limitations which have been subsequently abrogated by the advancing intelligence of the age. In 1793, the Roman Catholics were again admitted to the elective franchise, and the College of Maynooth was erected and endowed, for the education of the priesthood.

Early in the present century, the National Board of Education was projected by the late Earl of Derby, and ultimately brought into extensive operation, although, in the first instance, opposed by the Presbyterians, who, however, on the concession of certain modifications in the plan, gave in their adhesion. A large number of the Episcopal Clergy have, however, continued to oppose it, and have adhered to the Church Education Society, which admits of, and enforces, the unrestricted use of the Scriptures. The Schools of both these institutions are numerous in most parts of Down. In 1836, the ministers of the Synod of Ulster, and the majority of the Seceding Synod in the province, agreeing generally in doctrine and discipline, after some discussion, decided on coalescing, and they now constitute one body, under the appellation of The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.\* About half a century ago an import-

\* Reid's History of the Presbyterian Church, completed by Killen.

ant act was passed, imposing on the owners of property in Ireland, the payment of an annual rent-charge to the Clergy, in place of tithes, the opposition to which had become urgent and violent.

Subsequently to this, no very important legislation affecting the Irish Church took place until 1867, when a Royal Commission, after due inquiry, recommended various material changes in its polity, but they were not adopted by the Government, and the Irish Church Act was passed instead. By this enactment, the Irish Episcopal Church was entirely disestablished, and disendowed, and the annual grants of regium donum to the Presbyterians, and those to the College of Maynooth, were at the same time abolished, the latter receiving as compensation a very large sum of money out of the proceeds of the Church property. In consequence, the Presbyterian body engaged without delay in the formation of a Sustentation fund, for the purpose of supplementing the annual stipends paid by the different congregations to their ministers. But no change affecting the discipline of the various religious denominations took place, except in relation to the Irish Church, the precipitate disestablishment of which rendered necessary a complete reorganization of its polity and discipline, and the various steps taken to effect this object, I shall now, as briefly as possible, proceed to describe. Under the disadvantageous circumstances, in which the Church of Ireland was suddenly placed, the National Synod consisting of the Provincial Synods of Armagh, Tuam, Dublin and Cashel, met in Dublin, where it was resolved that the approaching Convention or General Synod of the Church, which was to enact laws and regulations, should be so framed, as to secure the greatest amount of public confidence, by excluding all purely ex-officio representation, and basing it entirely upon election, by the votes of properly constituted bodies. At a subsequent meeting of laymen, a requisition was prepared to the two Primates, requesting them to convene a "Lay Conference" for considering the subject of lay representation. In consequence four hundred and seventeen representatives



of the Church population were returned, who met in Dublin, and came to the decision, that the clergy and laity should discuss all questions together, the latter being double the number of the former, and that on the demand of any three members, a vote by orders might be taken on any disputed question, a regulation which, as enabling a minority to outweigh the opinions of a majority, has by no means met with general approbation, and which, it may be predicted, will require reconsideration at no very distant day.

The entire number of representatives (446) were apportioned as follows : To the Diocese of Down, 71 ; to Armagh, 72 ; to Dublin, 59 ; to Cork, 38 ; to Ossory, 36 ; to Derry, 36 ; to Meath, 23 ; to Cashel, 20 ; to Killaloe and Limerick, 19 each. Subsequently to the meeting of the original conference, special congregational elections of representatives to the General Convention have taken place, and Diocesan Synods, consisting of the Clergy, and lay delegates, have assembled, where many points, affecting the reorganization of the Church, were made the subject of preliminary discussion, before the meeting of the Convention. A Committee consisting of the members of the Episcopate, and two clerical, and two lay delegates, in all forty-eight, was appointed to frame the draft of a Constitution for the Church. In the General Synodical meeting of 1870, and the two following years, a code of statutes was arranged with the following objects, viz., the carrying out fiscal arrangements ; the collection of a sustentation fund ; framing rules for the regulation of cathedrals, and the consecration of Archbishops and Bishops ; and the ordination of beneficed clergymen and curates. The code also included regulations for the guidance of the General and Diocesan Synods, as well as forms of clerical subscription ; rules of discipline for the orderly government of the Church, and the punishment of offenders ; for the purchasing of glebe lands and houses ; the commutation and compounding of clerical incomes ; and the arrangement of fees for marriage licenses. The regulations still farther provided for the alteration of diocesan and parochial boundaries, the arrangement

of a new Lectionary ; and the revision of the Liturgy. The compilation of a new Lectionary has been completed, and it is now in general use, and some advances have been made in the revision of the Liturgy, a subject which has greatly stirred the minds of the people, and it is to be hoped, in the interests of the Church, that, although strongly opposed, in the first instance, it will soon be satisfactorily completed. Nor are any sweeping alterations required, but a few changes appear indispensable, to meet the wide-spread wish, and to prevent dangerous misconceptions in the minds of the less enlightened of the community, so as to bring our beautiful Ritual, what it is in reality, into obvious accord with the simple and pure doctrine of the scripture, and thereby render it insusceptible of misapprehension, even by the least instructed.

A Charter of Incorporation was granted, under letters patent, by her Majesty Queen Victoria, on the 15th day of October, in the thirty-fourth year of her reign, to the Representative Church Body, who are individually named therein, forming them into a corporation, and enabling them to hold property and lands, as in the Church Act specially provided.

The chief Court of the Irish Church is the General Synod, to which the several Diocesan Synods are subordinate.

#### REGULATIONS.

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland shall consist of three distinct Orders, viz. : the Bishops, the Clergy, and the Laity, forming two Houses, namely, the House of Bishops, and the House of Representatives ; but both Houses shall sit together in full Synod, for deliberation and transaction of business, except in such cases as shall be hereinafter provided.

The House of Bishops shall consist of all the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of Ireland for the time being.

The House of Representatives shall consist of two hundred and eight representatives of the Clergy, and four hundred and sixteen representatives of the Laity.

Down is to be represented in the General Synod by twenty

Clerical, and fifty Lay Representatives, the former to be appointed by the votes of the Clergy alone, and the latter by the votes of the Synodsmen alone.

The General Synod shall have power to alter or abrogate any of the enactments herein contained, and any of the Canons which now are, or at any time shall be, in force in the Church, and to enact new Canons.

No modification or alteration shall at any time be made in the articles, doctrines, rites, rubrics, or, save in so far as may have been rendered necessary by the passing of the 'Irish Church Act, 1869,' in the formularies of the Church, unless by a bill duly passed, as hereinbefore provided. No Bill for such purpose shall be introduced, except on a resolution passed in full Synod stating the nature of the proposed modification or alteration; and no such Bill or Resolution shall be deemed to have passed the House of Representatives, except by majorities of not less than two-thirds of each Order of the said House present and voting on such Bill or Resolution; Provided that any such Resolution shall be communicated to every Diocesan Synod at its meeting next after the Session of the General Synod at which such Resolution shall have passed; and no Bill for such purpose as aforesaid shall be introduced, until one year shall have elapsed after such resolution shall have been communicated to the Diocesan Synods.

Provided that the General Synod may, if it shall think fit, by Resolution and Bill, adopt any recommendation that shall have been unanimously made by the Royal Commission on the Rubrics, commonly called the Ritual Commission, and for this purpose it shall not be necessary to proceed by Resolution or Bill at a previous Session; provided always that the adoption of any such recommendation shall be carried by a majority of two-thirds of each Order present and voting.

The General Synod shall have power to make general regulations as to how and by whom all patronage shall be exercised; and generally to make all such regulations as shall be necessary for the order, good government, and efficiency of the said Church of Ireland.

The General Synod shall have power to control, alter, repeal, or supersede, any Regulation made by a Diocesan Synod, so far as may be necessary to provide against the admission of any principle inexpedient for the common interest of the Church.

The existing territorial arrangements of the two Provinces, under the government of their respective Archbishops, of the several Dioceses under the government of their respective Bishops, and of the several Parishes and Districts under the spiritual care of their respective Incumbents, shall continue as at present, unless, and until the same respectively be altered by the lawful authority of the Church.

The General Synod shall have the power of separating Provinces or Dioceses which are now united, or of sub-dividing existing Dioceses, of uniting two or more Dioceses under one Bishop, and of transferring any District from one Diocese to another Diocese, to which such District is contiguous: Provided, that no such alteration shall be made without the consent of the Diocesan Synod of each Diocese affected thereby: Provided also, that no such alteration shall be made in any Province or Diocese during the incumbency of its Archbishop or Bishop, without his consent.

At the conclusion of the business of the General Synod, the proceedings shall be authenticated by the signature of the Primate, or other President. A Committee shall be appointed by the General Synod to cause the enactments of the Synod to be duly recorded, and to cause the same, together with such parts of the proceedings as shall be ordered to be published, to be printed for the general use of the Church.

In case of trial before the diocesan Court, power of appeal, to the General Synod, is given to either party.

There shall be an Ordinary meeting of the General Synod in Dublin, in the year of our Lord 1871, and in every subsequent year, at such time and place as shall from time to time be prescribed in that behalf by the General Synod, and the time for holding the triennial election of Representatives shall be determined by the same authority.

The Archbishop of each Province shall, at least two months before the time appointed for the election of Representatives to serve in the General Synod, issue his Mandate to his Suffragan Bishops, for the election of Clerical and Lay Representatives of each Diocese, returnable on a day therein to be named; and thereupon every Bishop shall convene the Synod of his Diocese, and proceed to hold such election. The Archbishops shall also convene the Synods of their respective Dioceses for the same purpose, and proceed to hold such elections therein. On the day appointed for the return of the said Mandates, the period for which the previously existing members of the General Synod were elected shall be deemed to have expired.

#### DIOCESAN COUNCIL.

The members of the Diocesan Council for the Diocese of Down consist of six Clerical, and eight Lay members; for Connor, of eight Clerical, and fourteen Lay members; for Dromore, of four Clerical, and six Lay members; and for the exempt jurisdiction of Newry and Mourne, one Clerical and two Lay members.

Five Trustees have been appointed for the united Diocese, with the Belfast Banking Company as Treasurer, and two Clerical, and two Lay Honorary Secretaries are annually elected.

#### DIOCESAN SYNODS.

In each Diocese there shall be a Diocesan Synod: Provided that each Diocese shall have the right of uniting in Synod with any other Diocese or Dioceses under the same Bishop: Provided also that the Bishop of each united Diocese shall have the power of summoning the several Synods to meet in the first instance in the same place. The Diocese of Meath or any other Diocese now or hereafter constituted may, if it so think fit, divide itself into two districts for the purpose of holding the Diocesan Synod in two parts.

The Synod shall consist of the Bishop, of the beneficed and the licensed Clergymen of the Diocese, and of at least one Synods-



man for each Parish, and District Parochial Church in the Diocese. Every Church or Chapel, other than a District Parochial Church, which is under the charge of a Clergyman specially licensed therefor, shall also be entitled to return at least one Synodsmen.

Registered Vestrymen, who are members of a congregation, or owners of property in a parish, have the power of appointing three Parochial Nominators, and two Synodsmen for each Clergyman.

The Synodsmen form the lay part of the Diocesan Synods.

The Registered Vestrymen select from their own number twelve members, who, with the Clergyman and Churchwardens, constitute the Select Vestry.

The Churchwardens are nominated one by the Clergyman, and the other by the Parishioners.

The Diocesan Synod has the power of appointing Clerical and Lay Delegates, the former chosen by the Clerical, and the latter by the Lay members, such Delegates forming, together with the Episcopate, the General Synod.

The Representative Church Body is to be elected by the General Synod.

The appointment of an Incumbent to a Parish is made by the Bishop, the three Parochial, and three Diocesan Nominators, and in the last resort, in case of non-agreement or neglect to appoint, within a stated time, by the Bishop of the Diocese alone.

The fee for a Marriage license has been fixed by the General Convention, agreeably to the 35th section of the 33 and 34 Vic., c. 100, at a sum of five shillings for each, and a sum of ten pounds for a Special License, authorising the performance of the marriage ceremony elsewhere than in the Church.

The following list exhibits the comparative number, and the proportional decrease of the different religious denominations in the Kingdom, between the years 1834 and 1861 :—

	1834.	1861.	Decrease.
Established Church,	853,160	693,357	159,803
Roman Catholics,	6,436,060	4,505,265	1,930,795
Presbyterians	643,058	523,291	119,767

According to the last census, we find the religious professions in the County of Down returned as follows :—5,144 Unitarians, 1,033 Reformed Presbyterians, 488 Protestants, 485 Baptists, 436 Seceders, 262 Covenanters, 262 Society of Friends, 221 Moravians, 207 Christian Brethren, 200 Independents, 138 Non-Subscribing Presbyterians, 70 United Presbyterians, 59 Christians, 57 Plymouth Brethren, 30 Jews, 29 Brethren, 25 No Profession, 12 Trinitarians, 11 Lutherans, 11 Protestant Non-Sectarians, 9 Members of Catholic Apostolic Church, 6 Unsectarians or Catholic Christians, 5 Congregationalists, 5 Members of the Free Church of Scotland, 5 Separatists, 4 Freethinkers, 4 Swiss Protestants, 3 Liberal Christians, 3 Primitive Christians, 2 Believers in Jesus, 2 Evangelists, 2 Free Church, 1 Calvinist, 1 Dissenter, 1 French Calvinist, 1 German Protestant, 1 Rationalist, 23 Old Light Presbyterians, 16 New Light Presbyterians, 12 Evangelical Union, 9 Christian Israelites, 5 Christadelphians, 5 Darbyites, 5 Humanitarians, 4 Arians, 4 New Connexion Methodists, 3 Disciples of Christ, 2 Members of Christ's Church known by Conversion, 1 Member of Christ's Spiritual Church Unknown to the World, and 1 Swedenborgian.

To these we have to add (as classified in the following manner by the Commissioners), 91,378 Roman Catholics ; 65,650 Protestant Episcopalians ; 122,841 Presbyterians ; 4,252 Methodists, and 9,328 belonging to other denominations, in all comprising 61,464 families,

Hence we see that the percentage stands thus—Methodists, 1.4 ; Episcopalians, 22.4 ; Roman Catholics, 31.1 ; and Presbyterians, 41.9 ; and that more than two-thirds of the entire population are Protestants of various religious persuasions.

## CHAPTER VI.

### The Polity of the Irish Church.

THE Church of Ireland in the County of Down, includes the Sees of Down and Dromore, with the exempt jurisdiction of Newry and Mourne, now added to the latter Diocese, but the Diocese of Connor, attached to that of Down, lies almost entirely in the County of Antrim.

The number of Churches in the Diocese of Down are 50 ; in that of Dromore 30 ; in the Exempt Jurisdiction 8 ; whilst in the See of Connor there are 86. There is at least one Church in each Benefice, and they are all, without exception, at present in a fair state of repair.

The See of Down is supposed to have originated in an Abbey founded by St. Patrick, but St. Cartan is believed to have been the first Bishop. The early Prelates were styled Bishops of Dunlethglass. According to some authorities, Down and Connor were distinct Sees from the year 560 until 1441, John Cely having been the last Bishop who occupied the Episcopal chair in Down, as a separate Diocese. On the deprivation of Cely, at the solicitation of John, Bishop of Connor, Pope Eugene, the Fourth, was prevailed upon, in 1442, to unite the two Dioceses.

This union had been approved by letters patent of Henry the Fourth, in 1438, when the Bishops of the two Sees were desirous that the survivor should hold both. The Union was strongly opposed by John Prene, Archbishop of Armagh, who wished the Pope to appoint William Basset, a Benedictine Monk, to the Bishopric of Down. The union was maintained, notwithstanding, and has continued unbroken up to the present time ; so

that in a great measure, the history of the two Sees, from that period, is common to both.

In the twelfth century the Bishop of Dundalethglas, afterwards Dunum, and now Down, was styled Bishop of Ulidia or Ulster, the Bishop of Connor, Bishop of Dalriada, and the Bishop of Dromore, Bishop of Iveagh. After some centuries this altered nomenclature died away, and these Dioceses resumed their ancient names. Subsequently Down and Dromore became independent Sees; but as early as the thirteenth century, the Bishopric of Down had assumed the form it presented in the seventeenth.

These larger dioceses, as now existing, were formed by the combination of smaller ones, which were reduced to the condition of parishes. Down, besides Dundalethglass, included the following Churches, which had been under the superintendence of separate Bishops, viz., Rathcolpa, Nendrum, Maghbile, Beannochoir, and Rathmuirbulg.

The Diocese of Down is now entirely within the County of that name, but up to the seventeenth century, it included a part of Antrim, consisting of the Baronies of Upper Belfast, and Upper, and part of Lower Massereene, lying to the southward of a line drawn from Ardmore Point, in Lough Neagh, to the northern extremity of the Grange of Mollusk, and thence to Greencastle, near Belfast. In 1622, Belfast, or Shankill, with Carmoney, Coole, Armigall, Camlin, Lenavy, and part of Killead, formed the "Deanery of Clandermont," in the Diocese of Down, although situated in the County of Antrim, but no part of that See is now outside the confines of the county, and, as at present arranged, the united Dioceses of Down, and Connor, and Dromore, include the whole of the County of Down and Antrim, and small parts of Londonderry, and Armagh. The number of Benefices, or as now termed, Incumbencies, in the Diocese of Down, is 49; and in Connor, 121, with a Church population of 108,993 persons, and an area of 1,141,462 acres. Prior to the passing of the Church Act, the net income of the clergy was said to be £10,231, and there were at that time 48 Benefices, and Per-

petual Cures—the patronage of which was distributed as follows—viz., seventeen under the Bishop, Six under the Crown, twenty under lay patrons, one under Trinity College, two under Incumbents of Benefices, and two under the Crown and Bishop alternately. But the entire patronage is now in the hands of nominators or trustees, as the case may be, all previous rights of presentation having ceased. The rural deaneries in the Diocese of Down are Ards, Bangor, Hillsborough, Lecale East, and Lecale West. The rural deanery of Ards, “the *Altitudo Ulteriorum*” of the Books of Armagh, and Kilkenny, formed, in ancient times, a petty principality, nearly corresponding to the present Baronies of Upper and Lower Ards.

The United Diocesan Court of Down, and Connor, and Dro-more, until recently held in Lisburn, has been transferred to Belfast, the officials formerly being a Chancellor, a Vicar-General, a Surrogate, a Registrar, and Apparitor, with twelve district Surrogates. The Registrars are the keepers of the documents relating to the See lands, Benefices, Wills and Probates, and there are eight districts, viz. :—Ardquin, Belfast, Down, Downpatrick, Hillsborough, Lisburn, Newcastle, and Newtownards, whilst the Vicar-General acts for the Diocese at large.

The Court of Probate has the exclusive jurisdiction to grant Probates of Wills and Letters of Administration for all Ireland. Grants made in the Belfast office extend to all property whatever, and to any amount, no matter where situate, funded, or otherwise.

The first Bishop of Down is said to have been Saint Carlan (anno 499).

No materials, which can be explicitly relied on, are now available for forming a complete and correct catalogue of the Bishops and Abbots, who ruled over the smaller Sees, or the larger Dioceses when consolidated ; and, in point of fact, few of them have left any memorials worthy of record.

At the beginning of the fifteenth century, Thomas Pollard claimed to be Bishop of Down and Connor, and was supported



by the Archbishop, but on trial he lost his cause, Bishop John, who had been consecrated by Malachy Morgair, succeeding. This Bishop John was fined, shortly before his death, for neglecting a summons requiring "his appearance in Parliament." Bishop Tiberius, who had exerted himself in beautifying the Cathedral of Down, was succeeded about 1526, by Robert Blyth, Abbot of Thorney, who resided in Cambridgeshire, and held his Irish Sees, in commendam. The last Bishop, prior to the Reformation, was Eugene Magennis, appointed by Pope Paul III. John Meriman, a chaplain of Queen Elizabeth, succeeded in 1568, although the Pope appointed Miler Magragh as the successor to Bishop Magennis, but he had not possession of the temporalities, and subsequently becoming a Protestant, he was consecrated Archbishop of Cashel. John Tod, a convert from Popery, was nominated Bishop by James I., in 1604, and held also the See of Dromore in commendam, but having been deprived of his preferments by the High Court of Commission, he afterwards destroyed himself in London by swallowing poison.

Dr. Hutchinson, whose Episcopacy commenced in 1720, had the Church Catechism translated, and printed in Irish and in English. It was called the Rathlin Catechism, being primarily intended for the inhabitants of that Island.

The following is believed to form a correct catalogue of the Bishops of Down and Connor, subsequent to the union of the two Dioceses :—

Bishop John,	promoted	1441
Robert Rochfort,	"	1451
Thomas,	"	1456
Thady,	"	1469
Richard Wolsey,	"	1502
Tiberius,	"	1526
Robert Blyth	"	1541
Eugene Magennis,		
John Meriman,	promoted	1568
Hugh Allen,	"	1573

Edward Edgeworth,	„	1593
John Charden,	„	1596
Robert Humston,	„	1602
John Tod,	„	1606
James Dundas,	„	1612
Robert Echlin,	„	1613
Henry Lesley,	„	1635
Jeremy Taylor,	„	1660
Roger Boyle,	„	1667
Thomas Hatchet,	„	1672
Samuel Foley,	„	1694
Edward Walkington,	„	1695
Edward Smith,	„	1699
Francis Hutchinson,	„	1720
Carew Raynel,	„	1730
John Ryder,	„	1743
John Whitcombe,	„	1752
Robert Downes,	„	1752
Arthur Smyth,	„	1753
James Trail,	„	1765
William Dickson,	„	1783
Nathaniel Alexander,	„	1804

Richard Mant and Robert Bent Knox were the last two Bishops appointed, prior to the Disestablishment.

The heraldic arms of the Bishopric of Down bears sapphire, two keys in saltier topaz, bows downwards, suppressed by a lamb passant in fess pearl.

#### THE SEE OF DROMORE

antiently bore two keys in saltier, supported by a Bible expanded in fess, between two cross pattee fitchee erected; but at present the arms are pearl, a cross pattee ruby, between semy of tréfoils emerald on a chief sapphire a sun in splendour.

At an early day a second order of Bishops, Chorepiscopi or

country Bishops, existed in the Irish Church, and differed from Cathedral Bishops in this, that whereas one Bishop could lawfully ordain the former order, the presence of three was indispensable for the consecration of a Bishop. Subsequently the order of Chor-episcopi was abolished, and the class of rural Deans substituted.

The religious establishments in the county were numerous, and they are thus set down by Archdall in his *Monasticon Hibernicum* :—

Archadhcaoil, near the Bay of Dundrum, in Lecale.

Ardicnise, a friary of Franciscans.

Bangor, anciently the Vale of Angels; and at the same place an abbey of Canons regular founded by St. Comgall. Through the neglect of the Abbot, the establishment had become so ruinous, that the Friars of the Third Order of St. Francis took possession of it, by direction of Pope Paul II.

Blackabbey, two miles north of Ballyhalbert, founded for Benedictine Monks by de Courcy, who made it a cell to the Abbey of St. Mary, at Lonley in Normandy.

Imeathan, an abbey in the Barony of Lecale, afterwards called Breatain, which, in 1630, was only a castle and the seat of a nobleman, near Down.

Castle “Buy,” or Johnstown, situated three miles north of Portaferry, a Commandery of John the Baptist, founded by Hugh de “Lacie.”

Cluaindaimh, in Huecia (Iveah), an abbey in the early ages.

Comerer, or Cumber, an abbey founded by St. Patrick. Another was built here in honour of the Virgin Mary, by Brien Catha Dun, who supplied it with monks of the Cistercian order, from the Abbey of Alba Landa in Caermarthenshire. Brien fell by the sword of de Courcy.

Domnach-maghin, a church founded by St. Patrick in Mughdorna (Mourne).

Down. An abbey of Canons regular.

An Abbey of Cistercian Monks.

A Priory of Regular Canons.

Crossbearers. A Priory of St. John the Baptist.

An Abbey of Cistercian Nuns.

A Franciscan Friary and Leper's Hospital.

Dromore. An Abbey of Regular Canons, founded by St. Colman, and a Monastery of Friars of the order of St. Patrick.

Drumbo. An Abbey founded by St. Patrick. It was afterwards the Parish Church.

Dundrum. The castle said to have been built by Sir John de Courcy for Knights Templars, and after the abolition of the order, granted to the Prior of Down, by whom it was held until the suppression of the religious houses.

Eanachelte, a church founded in Iveagh, said by Archdall to be unknown, but it is now ascertained to have been Anahilt.

Erynagh, in the Barony of Lecale.

Eynes, an alien priory in the Ards.

Gray Abbey, an Abbey of Cistercian Monks, fully described elsewhere.

Holywood, a Monastery of Friars of the Third Order of St. Francis.

Iniscourcy, an Abbey of the Cistercian order, built by John de Courcy.

Kilcholpa, near Downpatrick, now unknown.

Kilclief, an Abbey of Regular Canons; and an Hospital for Lepers was also founded here.

Kilmbian, founded by St. Fergus, Bishop of Down, now unknown.

Kilroy, an ancient Abbey in Mugdorna.

Kiltonga, near Newtown, in the Ardes.

Magherelin, at Magheralin.

Moville, in the Barony of Ardes.

Neddrum (Mahee Island)—Noendrum, said to be unknown, is properly Nendrum, or Neddrum before mentioned.

Newry, a Cistercian Abbey, and a College.

Newtown, a Monastery of Dominican Friars.

Saul, an Abbey of Canons Regular, founded by St. Patrick.

Slieve Donard, a Monastery founded by St. Domangail.

Tamlachta umhail, an ancient Abbey near Lough Blisklan (Loughbrickland).

Teghda gobha, unknown, but said to have been in Iveagh, on the river Bann.

Toberglory, an Abbey at Down, founded by de Courcy, who gave it to the Regular Canons of the Church of the Virgin Mary in that town.

The ancient subdivisions of the Bishopric of Down as described by Dr. Reeves, in his *Ecclesiastical Antiquities*, a work displaying much learning and research, are as follows:—

“The Deanery of Clondermod, or Clandermont, the livings in which, however, were situated in the County of Antrim; the Deanery of Blaethwic, which included in a territory lying round Newtownards, the Deanery of Ard, and the Deanery of Lechayll, subsequently divided into the Deaneries of Mourne and Lecale, an arrangement which continues to the present day, and The Deanery of Dalboyn, called Dalvanie in the Terrier and Deluin in the Ulster Visitation, which comprised a tract of country extending from the vicinity of Moira to Drumbridge, lying on either side of the Lagan, now represented by the rural Deaneries of Hillsborough and Lisburn. The name was derived from the Irish Dal Bouinne, implying the portion of Buinn, a son of Fergus Mac Roigh, King of Ulster. Dromore does not appear to have had any Rural Deaneries in former times.”

The sum of the Taxation of the Diocese of Down was £424 3s. 3½d.; of Connor, £627 11s. 4d.; and of Dromore, £42 6s. 8d.

The value of the livings, constituting the several Deaneries and Incumbencies in the county, as set forth in the taxation, is fully stated in Reeves's *Ecclesiastical Antiquities*.

The Cathedral of Holy Trinity, Down, has recently been restored, subscriptions to the amount of £1146 having been expended on it, and it is now in good order.

The Corporation had no property except what was derived from



an annual charge of £271 18s. 5d. imposed, by 30 George III., c. 43, on the income of parishes then forming the corps of the Deanery ; which was applied for cathedral purposes. The Clerical vicar-choralship is vacant ; the income being so small (£56), that no one would take the office. The Prebends are St. Andrew's and Dunsford. It is stated that there is another Prebend in the cathedral, viz. : Talpestown, which having no corps or emoluments, has not for some time been filled up. There is no minor Corporation. The Dean holds the Rectory of Down, but has no emoluments from the Deanery. By charter, 1609, the Dean was ordinary of the Cathedral. By Act of Parliament (Ireland), 30 George III., cap. 43 (1790), the whole government and regulation of the church was vested in the Dean, who was also a member of the Chapter, and obliged to preach in the Cathedral in turn. The Archdeacon also preached in his turn. He holds the Rectory of Hillsborough, together with an annual revenue belonging to the Dignity, of £398 13s. 6d. derived from rents of Glebe lands in Kilclief Parish. The Precentor, Chancellor, Treasurer, and Prebends preach in turn, and attend meetings of the Chapter. No emoluments belong to these Dignities, but there are Benefices attached to all, except the Treasurership. Formerly the corps of the Deanery consisted of the Rectories of Downpatrick, Ballyculter, Bailee, Bright, and "Terela," the whole taxed at £13 6s. 8d. The Rectory of Loughinisland formed the corps of the Precentorship, taxed at £28 sterling, the Rectories of Kilmegan, Inch, Ards, Grange, and Outer, alias Witter, the corps of the Prebend of St. Andrews ; and the Rectory of Dunsford, the corps of the Prebend of Dunsfort, taxed at £3 sterling. The Rectories of Drumboe, Drumbeg, Crumlin, with the Chapel of St. Malachi, at Hillsborough, and Rectory of Kilclief forming the corps of the Archdeaconry, taxed at £8, and the Rectories of Ballyphilip, alias Portaferry, Slanes, Ballytrustan, and Ardglass, the corps of the Chancellorship. By a charter of James I. the Rectory and Vicarage of Drumbo, with Hillsborough, were placed in the corps of the Archdeaconry of Down. The Rectory of Ballykinlar or Lecale

was appropriated to Christ Church in Dublin, for the provision of waxlights.

The gross value of the See is £5309, and the nett income of the Bishop £3,763. It is taxed in the King's Books at twenty-five shillings sterling. The livings held by the members of the corps are of the following net value :—

Deanery,	...	...	...	£554	1	6
Archdeaconry,	...	...	...	600	8	7
Chancellorship,	...	...	...	289	2	0
Precentorship (Loughinisland),	...	...	...	332	5	1
Prebend, &c., of St. Andrews,	...	...	...	191	11	0
Dunsford,	...	...	..	179	2	6

The Parish Church of Lisburn, now styled St. Saviour's, has been occupied as the Cathedral for the united dioceses, up to the present time, under a Charter of Charles II. The Diocesan School of Down, founded in the 12th year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, appears afterwards to have fallen into decay. In 1823, it was united to that of Dromore, and an excellent school-room and residence for the Master were erected near Downpatrick in 1829, at the expense of £1000, defrayed by the county at large, on a site given by Lord Clifford, then the lord of the soil. It is free to all boys of both Sees, and is endowed with £50 per annum, from the Diocese of Dromore, and £40 from the Diocese of Down, one third of which is paid by the Bishop, and the remainder by the Clergy. The appointment of the Master rested with the Lord Lieutenant, but the office has now lapsed, and the building reverted to the owner of the soil. The exempt jurisdiction of Newry and Mourne, is now associated with the Diocese of Dromore. It comprises the following incumbencies:

St. Patrick's and St. Mary's in the Parish of Newry; Kilkeel and Annalong in the Parish of Kilkeel; and Kilcoo, Bryansford, and Newcastle in the Parish of Kilcoo, and Kilmegan.

In an old Manuscript, kindly placed at my disposal by the Lord Bishop of Down, an enumeration of all the ancient Parishes

is given, together with their taxation, which is set down at uniform rates, varying from 6s. 8d. to 13s. 4d., £1 6s. 8d. and £2 13s. 4d. as found by a Commission which met at Down, in the first year of Edward the Sixth. Those valued at £2 13s. 4d. were probably Unions, and of the last eight the valuation is not recorded. The document runs as follows:—

COM. DOWNE.

Extenta omn. singlor. Dmor Terr. Tent, Sprial et temporal in Com. Down ad Abbiam St. Patricm de Down in manibus Di Regis, at dissolution by Act of Parliament—taken at Down 13 dy Augt. anno primo Ed. 6.

Concordat cum originali, remanet in officio,

Supervisor Genl. Hibriæ

Richd. Thompson Deputy Gen. Gov.

Exc. per

Jo Hart, N.P.

The roll, which is very difficult to decipher, commences with the valuation of St. Patrick's Monastery at Down, amounting to 2s., and proceeds as follows:—

Rectoria de Brett, extending into Ballybretton, Ballyorga ;  
Rect. Dannesforth, extending into Dunnesford and Ballyhornan ;

Rectory of Baneston and Ballenay

Rectory of Bealgagh als Bealy ;

Exd. Xma Villal de Huseston ; als Ballyhussey ;

Ballyclender ;

Ballybrenagh ;

Ballycroler ;

Ballyelliney ;

Ballycross ;

Ballynosbery ;

Ballytristan ;

Ballybalter ;

Ballyreigne, vel Ballyrinne ;

Loughmonon ;

Ballycrooke ;

Ballysallagh ;  
 Crowe ;  
 Rectoria sive Ecclesia Knockazan als Ballywalsh ;  
 Rect. Taghryolly exted  
     to Ballybiffin ;  
 Ellanemocke ;  
 Ballypassae ;  
 Taghyrolly ;  
 Blountelbeg ;  
 Rect. Ecclesia de Lyrge ex Bollar ac Crevysse ;  
 Bramnye in paria de M'Cartan ;  
 Rect. de Shenkyll in paria ;  
 Briani ffertagh in Claneboy ;  
 Rectoria seu Ecclesia Ballyfuneragh,  
     als Ballywhymmeragh in Arde ;  
 Ballygalget ;  
 Ballycoller quarter de Kerronka,  
     als Ballygalga, quarter.de Ballycoos ;  
 quarter de Ballymokin, als Wilsbyton.

In this curious list, a few of the parishes can still be recognized, from the resemblance of the present to the original names, such as Dunsford, Ballee, and Shankill, but the memory of others only survives in the existing names of townlands, which probably formed constituent parts of rectories then bearing similar appellations. In some cases all memorials, both of the names and parochial boundaries, have long passed away.

In rare instances a few imperfect ruins may still be traced.

The Diocese of Dromore is supposed to have been comprised in the Diocese of Armagh, until the 13th century, as the only Bishops recorded, prior to 1227, are St. Colman, the founder, Malbrigid, Cathesaire, and Regan. In the latter end of the fifteenth century, Henry VII. was informed by the then Archbishop Archil, that the emoluments of the See did not exceed £40, and that, on account of its poverty, no prelate could be induced to remain in it, whilst many of them never saw their

Diocese. Dromore existed as a separate Diocese from the year 550 to 1842, but it is now united to Down and Connor, under the Church Temporalities Act, 3 and 4 William IV. c. 37), passed in 1833. By that statute it was arranged that the survivor, in the two Sees mentioned, should have both, but that the temporalities of Dromore should lapse to the Church Commissioners. The Diocese of Dromore now includes the late exempt jurisdiction of Newry and Mourne, and is entirely in the County of Down, with the exception of the parishes of Seago and Moyntaghs, which are in Armagh, Shankill, which is partly in Armagh, and partly in Down, and Aghalee, which is altogether in Antrim.

There is a church in each benefice, and five in the parish of Kilkeel.

The several parishes of the Diocese of Dromore lying in the County of Down, are described in the appropriate chapter, and it will therefore be only necessary to advert to those not within its confines. These are Aghalee in Antrim, and Moyntaghs, and Seago, in the County of Armagh. Aghalee, anciently the chapel of Acheli, was apportioned to the Abbot of Bangor, but it was transferred to the Diocese of Dromore, prior to 1546, as appears from Primate Dowdall's Registry. Moyntaghs or Ardmore has the extensive area of 18,098 acres. The patronage was formerly in the Bishop. At one time it was a part of Seago, but erected into a separate parish in 1765. It has a glebe and glebe-house, and a small church built on the shores of Lough Neagh.

The parish of Seago, has an area of 8038 acres. It forms the corps of the Archdeaconry of Dromore, and the patronage was formerly vested in the Bishop. The glebe is very large, containing five hundred acres. The glebe-house is commodious, and the church is large and handsome, built in the early English style, at a cost of £2,200.

The living of Aghalee, above referred to, is a Union, containing also the parishes of Magheramesk and Aghagallon, termed in the



Terrier, Anachegaldanagh. At the dissolution this rectory was appropriated to the abbot of Movilla.

The rural deaneries are Aghaderg, Dromore, Kilbroney and Magheralin. The district offices for granting marriage licenses are at Ballinahinch, Dromore, Drumgath, Seapatrik, Shankill, and Warrenpoint, and the Vicar-General has authority to issue them to the diocese at large.

There was formerly a Consistorial Court holden at Dromore, but it is now amalgamated with that of Down and Connor.

The officers of the court were a vicar-general in spirituals, a chancellor and official principal, two surrogates, a registrar, apparitor, and two proctors.

No emoluments are annexed to the several clerical dignities, except to the Prebendary of Dromara, amounting to £237 5s, and the Precentorship of Dromore, to which a salary of £36 18s. 4d. is attached, the latter arising from the rent of lands, and the former from the rectorial tithes of the parishes of Garvagh and Magherahamlet. In ancient times there were Termon and Herenach lands, belonging to the See, leased out to the natives, and confirmed to them by patent of James I.

The chapter anciently consisted of a dean, an archdeacon, and a prebendary, but as remodelled by James I., the officials at present are a dean, archdeacon, chancellor, treasurer, and Prebendary, to whom various rectories and vicarages were appropriated.

The area of the See of Dromore is 288,512 acres, and contains a church population of 44,474 persons, the entire number of inhabitants being 172,215. It now comprises 31 benefices and perpetual curacies.

To these may now be added the Incumbencies in the exempt jurisdiction of Newry and Mourne.

#### SCHEDULE OF INCOMES AND ASSESSMENT OF PARISHES

in the Diocese of Down, the assessment being the amount paid by each Parish, in furtherance of the Church Scheme. In the case

of Parishes marked (a), the Incumbents receiving Income under the Diocesan Scheme are bound to keep a Curate.

PARISH.	INCOME.			ASSESSMENT.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Ardglass ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Ballee ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
a Ballyculter and Kilclief	300	0	0	170	0	0
Ballymacarrett ...	250	0	0	140	0	0
a Ballyphilip and Ardquin	300	0	0	170	0	0
Ballynafeigh ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Bangor ... ..	250	0	0	140	0	0
Bright ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Comber ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Donaghadee ...	200	0	0	110	0	0
Down—Parish Church	300	0	0	170	0	0
Drumbeg ... ..	300	0	0	170	0	0
Drumbo ... ..	200	0	0	110	0	0
Dundela ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Dundonald ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Dunsford ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
a Hillsborough ...	400	0	0	230	0	0
Inch ... ..	200	0	0	110	0	0
Killaney ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Killinchy ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Killough ... ..	75	0	0	50	0	0
Kilmore ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Knockbreda ...	200	0	0	110	0	0
Loughinisland*	200	0	0	110	0	0
Newtownards ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Rathmullen ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Saintfield ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0
Saul ... ..	150	0	0	80	0	0

\* To pay £120 during present Incumbency.

## DIOCESE OF DROMORE.

PARISH.	INCOME.			ASSESSMENT.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Aghaderg ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Aghalee ...	200	0	0	110	0	0
Clonallon ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Clonduff ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
<i>a</i> Donaghcloney ...	300	0	0	170	0	0
Donaghmore ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Dromara ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Dromore ...	300	0	0	170	0	0
Drumballyroney ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Drumgatn ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Drumgooland ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Garvaghy ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Gilford ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Kilcoo or Bryansford	200	0	0	110	0	0
<i>a</i> Kilkeel ...	350	0	0	200	0	0
Do. Annalong ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Kilmegan ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Mocknamuckley ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Magheradroll ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Magheralin ...	200	0	0	110	0	0
Moirá ...	200	0	0	110	0	0
Newcastle ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Scarva ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Seagoe ...	150	0	0	83	0	0
<i>a</i> Seapatríck ...	300	0	0	170	0	0
<i>a</i> Shankill or Lurgan ...	400	0	0	230	0	0
Tullylish ...	150	0	0	80	0	0
Warrenpoint ...	200	0	0	110	0	0

*Parishes not in the Diocesan Scheme having private endowments.*

# DIocese OF DOWN.

## AMOUNT OF ENDOWMENTS.

			£	s.	d.
Ballyhalbert	...	...	174	0	0
Ballywalter	...	about	200	0	0
Carrowdore	...	...	153	15	0
Castlewellan	...	...	100	0	0
Glencraig	...	...	No return.		
Greyabbey	...	...	77	1	11
Groomsport	...	...	100	0	0
Hollymount	...	...	50	0	0
Holywood	...	...	202	0	0
Killyleagh	...	...	Uncertain.		
Kilmood	...	...	69	0	0
Kilwarlin	...	...	43	0	0
Kircubbin	...	...	273	0	0
Willowfield	...	...	75	0	0

# DIocese OF DROMORE.

Annahill	...	...	117	0	0
Ardmore or Moyntaghs	...	...	63	0	4
Kilbroney	...	...	159	0	0
Magherahamlet	...	...	41	15	10
Newry					
St. Mary's	...	...	270	0	0
St. Patrick's	...	...	100	0	0

DIocese OF DOWN.—The following Parishes are unprovided for when a vacancy occurs:—Ardkeen, Maghera, Tullynakill, and Tyrella.

DIocese OF DROMORE.—Annacloan, Magherally. Annacloan has purchased its Glebe, but has no other endowment.

In the Taxation the Bishop of “Dunmore’s portion” is stated to

have been twenty marks, and in the reign of Henry VI. it was "fourty" marks. In the King's Book, the lands, chiefly rectories, and mensal of the Bishop, are rated at £50. In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries the emoluments were so small, that many of the bishops resided England, and some of them never saw their diocese. According to the return of Bishop Buckworth, the sum total of both spirituals and temporals, amounted only to £374 3s. 8d.

In 1779 the gross income is set down by Arthur Young, at £2,000 per annum, whilst in 1833, the reserved rents belonging to the See amounted to over £1,518; and the renewal fines to more than £2,705 7s. 6d., making a total revenue of £4,223. No emolument is now attached to the Deanery, but the Archdeacon holds the living of Seago, the Chancellor that of Clonallon, the Precentor that of Magheralin, the Treasurer that of Dromore, and the Prebendary that of Dromara.

The parish church of Dromore, the Cathedral of the diocese, is styled the Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer.

There is no perfect record, so far as I can ascertain, of the earlier Bishops of Dromore, nor were any of them peculiarly distinguished for their attainments, and I shall content myself, therefore, with a list of those who were raised to the Episcopate, subsequently to the Reformation, commencing with Arthur Magennis, promoted in 1550, and terminating with James Saurin, (1819), the last who ruled the diocese as an independent See, which has, subsequently to its union with Down and Connor, been under the control in succession of Bishops Richard Mant, and R. B. Knox.

The following were the Bishops since the Reformation:—Arthur Magennis, John Tod, or John Farmer, Theo. Buckworth, Robert Lesly, Jeremy Taylor, George Runt, Essex Digby, Capel Wiseman, Tobias Pullen, John Sterne, Ralph Lambert, Charles Cole, Henry Maule, Thomas Fletcher, Jemmet Brown, George Marley, John Oswald, Edward Young. The Hon. Henry Maxwell, William Newcome, James Hawkins, The Hon. William Beresford, Thomas Percy, George Hale, John Leslie, and James Saurin.



The Bishopric of Connor, at the present day, lies entirely within the County of Antrim, but being united with Down, it demands a brief notice here, not to mention, that it, at one time, formed part of the County of Down, as we learn from Blean's Universal Atlas. According to St. Bernard, the state of society, at the time Bishop Malachias held the Episcopal staff, was, as described by him, at a very low ebb, for he found that, "Non ad homines sed ad bestias destinatum—Christiani in nomine, in re Pagani." The Bishop then goes on naïvely to advert to their practice, "Non decimos, non primitias dare, non legitima inire conjugia, et non facere confessiones," and St. Bernard completes the picture by stating, "Quanquam omnes lupi, et oves nullæ, stetit in medio luporum pastor intrepidus."

This, very unfavourable picture of the inhabitants, however appropriate it may have been in the time of Bishop Malachias, is certainly altogether inapplicable in the present day. By some authorities Connor is written Conderre—*i. e.*, the Derry or oakwood of the Dogs.

The Diocese of Connor is as large as the other two combined, including the whole of the County of Antrim, as well as portions of the parishes of Blaris, Drumbeg, and Lambeg, in the Diocese of Down, and the union of Aghelee, in the diocese of Dromore. It also comprises Coleraine and Agherton, or Ballyraghan, which are in the liberties of Coleraine, and within the same limits, are portions of the parishes of Ballyrashane, or St. John's Town, and Ballywillin or Miltown, the remainder being in Antrim. It also contains the parish of Ballyscullion in the County of Londonderry.

In the Taxation, the procurations of the Bishop of Connor are set down at 50 marks; the perquisites of the chapter of the Bishop, and Archdeacon, at 25 marks; the Synodals of the Bishop and Archdeacon at £7 16s.; and the sum of the taxation at £57 16s. The whole taxation of the diocese of Connor was £62 15s. 1d.

The Bishop of Connor was anciently styled Bishop of Dalradia, as distinguishing him from the Bishop of Uladh, or Down.

From early times, at the prescribed annual or triennial visitation

of the Bishop to each Church, it was a rule, that he should be entertained by the Parish Priest. This entertainment was styled *procuratio*, and when the Archdeacons, in after times, came to discharge a part of the visitorial duties, the right of procuration was extended to them. Subsequently, procuration came to signify a pecuniary compensation, in place of the entertainments referred to. At the Reformation, the rates of proxies in the Sees of Down, Connor, and Dromore, varied from twenty to two shillings. The fees now payable, in Down and Connor, are Procurations to the Ordinary, and Exhibits to the Registrar.

Synodals (*synodalia*) denoted the duty paid by the clergy, when attending the ancient Episcopal Synods, at which the Bishop presided. In Down and Connor two shillings was the sum invariably paid for synodals.\*

Refections were entertainments simply comprising a dinner or supper, provided by the clergy for the Bishop, or Archdeacon presiding at their usual chapters, or a pecuniary compensation in lieu of it.

The Rural Deaneries in Connor are Ballymena, Belfast, Larne, Lisburn, and Ballinderry.

The districts for supplying marriage licenses are Antrim, Ballymoney, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Kirkinriola, Larne, Lisburn, and Ramoan, and the Vicar-General issues them for the diocese at large.

The following livings were formerly attached to the corps of Cathedral, viz.:—

Carrickfergus to the Deanery.

Billy	„	Archdeaconry.
Ballymoney	„	Precentorship.
Ramoan	„	Chancellorship.
Agherton	„	Treasurership.
Connor	„	Prebend of Connor.
Derrykeighan	„	Prebend of Carncastle.
Rasharkin	„	Prebend of Rasharkin.
Ballymena	„	Prebend of Kilroot.

\* Reeves' Ecclesiastical Antiquities, p. 102.

The names of many of the Bishops of Connor, prior to its union with Down, in 1442, are known, but nothing remains to shew, that they were in any respect distinguished, or that there would be any advantage in putting them on record here.

The religious societies with which the inhabitants of the united Dioceses of Down and Dromore are principally connected, are

The Auxiliary to the Society for promoting Christianity amongst the Jews,

The Down, Connor and Dromore Church Education Society,  
The Belfast Church Extension Society, the object of which is the erection of new churches in Belfast,

The Irish Society,

The Connor Clergy's Widows' Fund,

The Board of Missions,

The Colonial Missionary Society,

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts,

The Diocesan Church Missionary Society,

The Down, Connor and Dromore Additional Curates' Fund Society,

The Protestant Orphan Society for Down and Antrim,

The Association for Discountenancing Vice, and

The Hibernian Bible Society.

In the Ecclesiastical Polity of Hooker it is affirmed, that change even from worse to better cannot be made without inconvenience, and it may readily be conceived, therefore, that the alterations in an opposite direction, wrought by the Church Act, must have exercised a most unfavourable influence on the Irish Church, and involved her in great and sudden difficulties, but although "perplexed not in despair, persecuted but not forsaken, cast down but not destroyed," there are cheering grounds for the humble, and earnest hope, that she will ultimately surmount the injuries inflicted by the disastrous legislation of which she was made the object, and that she may long be the instrument of handing down to generations yet unborn the glad tidings of the Gospel of Peace.

## CHAPTER VII.

### The Polity of the Presbyterian Church.

THE Presbyterian body, in the County of Down, is very numerous, amounting to nearly 180,000 persons, viz., 56,185 males and 61,741 females, who are formed into congregations, the local management of which is vested in the ministers, and a certain number of lay members, termed elders, who are duly appointed to the office, and form an ecclesiastical court, or church session. The formation of their congregations is voluntary, and not regulated, as in the Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches, by any parochial or geographical boundaries, but solely with reference to proximity, convenience, and the will of the members. The congregations, in a district agreed upon, are formed into a court or presbytery, the members of which are the ministers, and certain deputed lay elders, who constitute the first Court of Appeal, in matters of difficulty. They examine into the qualifications and fitness of candidates for the ministry, and perform the office of ordination in all congregations within their respective bounds. These local courts hold stated meetings, some monthly, and others quarterly, and their minutes are recorded by a clerk. The Synods and the General Assembly, except on special summons, meet only once in the year.

The number of presbyteries wholly or partly in Down are seven, having the following number of congregations, namely,

Ards	Presbytery	twenty-four,
Banbridge	„	sixteen,
Belfast	„	sixty-two,
Comber	„	twelve,
Down	„	fourteen,
Newry	„	twenty-six,
and Rathfriland	„	fourteen.

The Churches of the Ards, Banbridge, Comber, Rathfriland, and Down Presbyteries, are all within the County of Down. The Presbyteries of Belfast, Newry and Dromore have, respectively, sixteen, nine, and eleven congregations in the same county, the remainder being in the adjoining counties of Antrim, Louth, and Armagh.

The Presbyterian Churches in the Presbytery of Ards are  
Bally-copeland, Ballyrainey, Conlig, Cloughey, Kircubbin,

The fourth Newtownards, Glastry, Greyabbey,

The first Newtownards, Groomsport,

The first Ballywalter, Donaghadee, Millisle,

The first Bangor, Greenwell in Newtownards, Ballyblack, Portaferry, Carrowdore,

The second Bangor, Ballygilbert,

The second Ballywalter, Kircubbin, and

The second Newtownards.

The Banbridge Presbytery contains

The Banbridge, Katesbridge, Loughbrickland, Tullylish, the second Anaghlone, Gilford, Donacloney, Garvaghy, Newmills, Scarva, Glascar, Magherally and Bannside churches. In the Belfast Presbytery, so far as within the County of Down, are the Legacurry, Carryduff, Newtownbreda, Hillhall, Boardmills, Belmont and Maze Churches. The Comber Presbytery includes the first Congregations of Comber, and of Killyleagh; the second Comber, Gilnahirk, Killinchy, Ballinahinch, the second, Killyleagh, Gransha, Ballygowan, and the Stream Church in Newtownards; the Down Presbytery comprises the churches of Kilmore; the second Ballinahinch, Raffery, Strangford, Ardglass, Magherahamlet, Seaforde, the second Saintfield, the second Dromara, Boardmills, Clough, Lissara, and Downpatrick Congregations. In the Dromore Presbytery are included Drumbo; the second Lurgan, Cargacreevy, Moira, Annahilt, Hillsborough, Drumlough, the second Dromore, Waringstown, Loughaghery, and the first, Congregations of Drumbo, Dromara, Dromore, and Lurgan. The Newry Presbytery is extensive, and comprises



Annalong; the second Newry, Clarksbridge, Poyntzpass, Mourne, Ryans, Rostrevor; the first Newry, Kilkeel; the third Newry, Warrenpoint, and Cremore. And in Rathfriland Presbytery are arranged, the third Rathfriland, Brookvale; the second Rathfriland, Leitrim, Hilltown, Newcastle, Drumlee, Clonduff, Drumgooland, Castlewellan, Ballyroney, the first Anaghlonge, and Rathfriland Congregations.

Prior to the disendowment of the Established Church, the ministers of the Presbyterian Body in Ireland were partly paid by voluntary stipends, and partly by a government grant, varying at different periods, according to class, and ultimately amounting in all cases to £75 per annum. But for the future, the income is to be made up by the voluntary payments of the congregations in each church, aided by a contribution arising out of the interest of capitalized subscriptions, forming a permanent Sustentation Fund.

Separate funds have been established for the support of their churches, manses, and schools, and for the extinction of debts previously contracted. Many of the congregations have manses attached to them.

The societies of the Presbyterian Body are the Irish Temperance League, with its organ, "The League Journal;" the Church Extension, the Colonial, the Foreign, the Roman Catholic, the Continental, the Jewish, the Connaught Schools, and the Soldiers and Sailors' Missions, together with the Sabbath School auxiliaries, the objects of which are indicated by their names.

The Assembly has also appointed Committees on Sabbath Observance, on Temperance, and on the Statistics connected with their Church.

The Candidates for the Presbyterian Ministry, in the County of Down, are principally educated at the Queen's College, Belfast, where they have also a Theological College. There is also a Theological College at Londonderry, termed from the name of the founder, the Magee College.

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## CHAPTER VIII.

### The Polity of the Roman Catholic Church.

THE Roman Catholic Church in Ireland is governed by four Archbishops, whose sees are in Armagh, Dublin, Cashel, and Tuam, and twenty-four Bishops; who are all nominated by the Pope, generally out of a list of three names submitted to him by the Parish Priests and Chapter of the vacant diocese, and reported on by the Archbishop and Bishops of the province. In case of expected incapacity from age or infirmity, the Bishop names a coadjutor, who is usually confirmed by the Pope, with the right of succession. The diocesan dignitaries are the Vicars-General, of whom there are one, two, or three, according to the extent of the diocese, who have special disciplinary and other powers; and the Vicars-Forane, whose functions are more restricted, together with Archdeacons, and Parish Priests, or Incumbents. All of these, as well as the Curates, are appointed by the Bishop. The whole of the clergy are supported solely by the voluntary contributions of their flocks. The episcopal emoluments arise from the mensal parish or two, the incumbency of which is retained by the Bishop, from marriage licences, and from the cathedraticum, an annual sum varying from £2 to £10, paid by each Incumbent in the diocese. The Curates of the Parish Priests form more than one half of the whole clerical strength. All the places of public worship are built by private contributions.

The Roman Catholic Dioceses, in the County of Down, are Dromore and Down, the latter forming with Connor one Diocese. The following Parishes are comprised in the united See of Down and Connor, exclusive of those appropriated to the Bishop :—

Ahoghill.	Glenravel, or Skerry.
Ards, lower.	Greencastle.
Armoy.	Holywood.
Aghagallon.	Innispollan, or Cushendun.
Ballee and Ballyculter.	Kilclief.
Ballycastle.	Kilcoo.
Ballygalget.	Kilmegan.
Ballymena.	Kilmore.
Ballymoney.	Larne.
Bright.	Lisburn.
Bryansford.	Loughinisland.
Carrickfergus.	Loughgeel.
Coleraine.	Mourne, lower.
Culfeightrin.	Mourne, upper.
Cushendall.	Newtownards.
Derryaghy.	Portaferry, or Ballyphillip.
Down.	Portglenone.
Drummaul.	Portrush.
Duneane.	Rasharkin.
Dunloy.	Rathlin, Island of,
Dunsford.	Saintfield.
Glenarm.	Saul.
Glenavy.	Tyrella.

The County of Down portion of the Diocese comprises eighteen parochial districts, containing thirty-seven chapels, in charge of twenty-eight clergymen, eighteen of whom are Parish Priests, and ten are Coadjutors or Curates.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Down is within the Archdiocese of Armagh, and the Cathedral Church is the Church of St. Malachi in Belfast.

This Diocese lies entirely in the Counties of Down and Antrim. The Roman Catholic arrangement of the parishes, nearly, but not altogether, corresponds with that of the Episcopal Church, some of them being united as unions, and others forming independent

benefices. The present Bishop of the diocese is the Most Rev. Patrick Dorrian, D.D., resident at Lys Marie House, in Belfast.

The officiating clergy are educated at the College of Maynooth and the Roman Catholic University in Dublin.

The Bishop's Parish, or Belfast, includes the Churches of St. Peter, St. Mary, St. Patrick, St. Malachy, and St. Joseph, in the County of Antrim, and Ballymacarret in the County of Down.

In 1871 the Roman Catholic population of the County of Down, which includes the dioceses of Down and Dromore, amounted to 88,090, the numbers of all the other religious persuasions being over 189,000, and of those of the Episcopal Church, 62,111, whereas, in 1733 it may be estimated from returns made by the hearth-money collectors, that the Protestants were then 70,300, and the Roman Catholics 26,050, so that the latter are now considerably over triple the number as calculated at that time. Each Union contains a number of parishes, and chapels, which are all laid down on the geographical map.

In 1704, it appeared from a return transmitted from the sessions of Downpatrick, drawn up in pursuance of an Act requiring the registration of the Popish clergy, that they amounted to thirty, nearly the number at the present time.

The diocese of Dromore is almost entirely within the County of Down, only small portions being in Armagh and Antrim. The Cathedral of St. Patrick is a very handsome modern structure, situated in the town of Newry. This See is in the Archdiocese of Armagh. The present Bishop is the Most Rev. John Pius Leahy, D.D., whose residence at Violet Hill, is in the vicinity of Newry.

The diocese contains the following parishes and unions, viz., Aghaderg, Annaclone, Ballynahinch, Banbridge, Clonallon, Clonduff, Dromara, Drumgooland, Lower Drumgooland, Upper Dromore, Donoughmore, Drumgath, Kilbroney, Lurgan, Magheralin, Magherahanlet, Newry, Seagoe, and Tullylish. Newry is the benefice of the Bishop, and Aghaderg is appropriated to the Vicar-General. The Roman Catholic parishes have, in every instance, one or two chapels within their confines, and in some

cases even more, corresponding to the number of benefices which they contain.

There are two Nunneries in Newry, supported in part by sums, usually from three to five hundred pounds, contributed by the nuns, who take the vows, and partly by the emoluments received for the education of the better classes of pupils.

There is also a School of the Brothers of St. Vincent de Paul, in Newry, established for the education of poor children.

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## CHAPTER IX.

### The Methodist Church.

THE religious body, usually known by the somewhat unmeaning appellation of Methodists, owes its origin, which may be dated from 1729, to the celebrated John Wesley, who had as associates, in the great task he performed, his brother Charles, and the famous George Whitfield.

It was not originally the object of either of these great Apostles of Methodism, to become founders of a sect opposed to the State religion, but the doors of both the Established, and Presbyterian Church being closed against them, conformity became impracticable, and they therefore commenced to preach either in the open air, or in private houses, wherever a congregation could be collected.

The first Methodist Society was formed in 1740, and in 1743, rules for the guidance of its members were drawn up, and framed with such skill and foresight, that they continue in force even to the present day.

The discipline of the Church is under the direction of a Conference, who hold an annual meeting. The Wesleyan Body in the United Kingdom forms one connexion, the President of the English, being also the President of the Irish Conference.

Many dissensions, arising from various causes, have taken place

\* Article Methodism, in the Penny Cyclopædia.

since the death of Wesley, and the Society has been split up into different denominations which may be thus classified :—

1. The chief and largest body, the Wesleyan Methodists.
2. The Primitive Methodists.
3. The Methodists of Lady Huntingdon's Connexion.
4. The Methodists of the New Connexion.
5. The Bible Christians.
6. The Protestant Methodists.
7. The Association Methodists.
8. The Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.
9. The Inghamites.

The Methodists of Lady Huntingdon's Connexion embraced Calvinistic doctrines, and this form of Methodism closely resembles, with some distinctions, however, that promulgated by Whitfield. Selina, Countess of Huntingdon, the founder of this sect, was a daughter of the Earl of Ferrers, and her sister married Lord Kilmorey, whose family has long been connected with the County of Down.

Wesley and Whitfield co-operated for some time, but they quarrelled as early as 1741, on the great question of Predestination, the former maintaining the tenets of the Arminian Theology, and the latter the most rigid doctrines of Calvinism.

Of the above subdivisions of Methodism, only a few have Churches in this County, and its adjacencies—viz., at Ligoniel, Jennymount, University Road, Wesley Place, and Springfield, and in Frederick-street, Eliza-street, Donegal Place, and Donegal Square, in Belfast. Holywood, Donaghadee, Newtownards, and Dromore, have fixed Churches, and there are also Missionary Stations at Downpatrick, Ballymacarrett, Comber, Newry, Strangford, Moira, and Banbridge.

By the census of 1871, it appeared that the number of Methodists in the County of Down amounted to 8,550.

Any reader desirous of obtaining minute information regarding

the doctrine and discipline of this very influential and numerous body, which has spread its ramifications all over the world, will find it in the Sermons and Journal of Wesley ; Valentine Ward's Miniature of Methodism ; Portraiture of Methodism, by Joseph Nightingale ; Southey's Life of Wesley ; Observations on that work, by the Rev. Richard Watson ; Dr. Adam Clarke's Memoirs of the Wesley Family, and the Minutes of the several Conferences.

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## CHAPTER X.

### Other Religious Denominations.

VARIOUS other Protestant Bodies have more or fewer adherents in the County of Down.

The Reformed Presbyterian Synod comprises the North-Western, the Southern, the Eastern, and the Nova Scotian Presbyteries.

This body is unconnected with the General Assembly, and did not participate in the Royal Bounty. The congregations in the County of Down are at Rathfriland, Loughbrickland, Baillie's Mill, Knockbracken, Newtownards, and Killinchy.

The United Presbyterian Presbytery of Ireland, pretty similar in discipline, has one congregation at Ballyfrenis, near Donaghadee. The Secession Church has one congregation at Boardmills, in this county, and another at Lisburn, in the County of Antrim.

The Congregationalists, or Independents, profess independence, not only of the ecclesiastical control of the established hierarchy, but of all authority extraneous to the congregation of which they constitute a part, each congregation forming a complete church in itself. They date their origin, in common with the Brownists, whose views are nearly identical, to the beginning of the 17th century, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. By some, their real formation as a distinct sect is attributed to Mr. Robinson, in 1640, whilst others affirm that their doctrines were entertained by various individuals in the previous century. The Independents have a considerable number of congregations in Ireland, but only one in the County of Down, which is situated at Newry, and there is another in Belfast.

In the census of 1871, the number of Independents in this

county is returned as eighty-three, viz. :—forty-two males, and forty-one females.

The Baptists had their origin in the sixteenth century, their chief seat being Germany, where they suffered much persecution.

When they appeared in England, they were denounced as heretics, their books were burnt, and they were banished forth of the kingdom by proclamation, and some were even put to death at the stake.

Each congregation is a church in itself.

The Baptists have an association of twenty congregations in Ireland, and there are eight others not in connexion with the association ; but the only churches in the County of Down and its confines are at Banbridge, Conlig, Kilkeel, Belfast, and Portadown. In 1871, the Baptists in the County of Down numbered 441.

The Covenanters are not numerous in the county, but they are an industrious, moral, and well-conducted people. The few clergymen of this persuasion in Down are connected with the Eastern Reformed Presbyterian Synod, who hold their meetings annually.

In doctrine, they very much resemble the Orthodox Presbyterians, but differ widely in their form of church government.

The Eastern Reformed Presbyterian Synod has two Presbyteries, that at Belfast and Derry, and eight congregations, of which Newtownards alone is in the County of Down. This denomination of Christians is commonly known under the appellation of Cameronians or Covenanters.

The Moravians, or Herrnhuters are a sect descended from the Bohemian Brethren, a branch of the Hussites, or followers of the celebrated John Huss, from whom they afterwards separated, and were divided into three classes, the Beginners, the Proficients, and the Perfect. They had bishops, seniors, presbyteries, and deacons, who administered both their civil and ecclesiastical affairs. Like the Society of Friends, they refused to do military service. In the early part of their progress they suffered persecu-



tion, but were ultimately tolerated. They subsequently spread from Moravia, through Germany, Holland, the United States, and Great Britain, but their chief settlements are still in Germany. The belief of their having a community of goods is erroneous. Simple in their dress, they reject all gaudiness and ornament. They are a people of decent character, not exclusive, charitable, and fond of peace. In their discipline, they exclude from their communion the vicious and worldly. The Moravians are not a numerous sect, but many Protestants, of various denominations, associate and live with them, without subscribing to their articles of discipline. One of the principal objects of the Moravians is to send out missionaries to the heathen.

The great founder or restorer of this sect was the celebrated Count Nicholas Zinzendorf, who established on his own estate, in Saxony, the Moravian colony of Herrnhut. In the County of Down the Moravians have a small church and settlement near Hillsborough, and there is another at Gracehill, in the diocese of Connor, but both are insignificant in point of numbers.

The Unitarians, although not a numerous body, are generally of very respectable social position and character. They are split up into several divisions, including the Remonstrant Synod, the Presbytery of Antrim, and the Northern Presbytery of Antrim. In their discipline they are closely assimilated to other Presbyterians.

The Remonstrant Synod, which separated from the General Synod of Ulster in 1830, has, in all, twenty-seven congregations, of which twelve, viz.,—two in Dromore, and one, in Rade-mon, Ballinahinch, Newry, Banbridge, Warrenpoint, Kilmore, Ballee, Kircubbin, Moira, Ballyhemlin, Killinchy, and Comber, are in the County of Down.

The Remonstrant Synod meets annually.

The Presbytery of Antrim separated from the Synod of Ulster

\* Mosheim's Ecclesiastical History, Vol. III.

† Penny Cyclopædia, Article, Moravians.

in 1727. It meets on the first Wednesday of January, April, July, and October. It comprises eleven congregations, of which seven are in the County of Down, and assemble at Downpatrick, Newtownards, Clough, Banbridge, Moneyrea, Greyabbey, and Ravara.

The Northern Presbytery of Antrim, which meets on the first Friday of January, April, July, and October, comprises five congregations, of which one only, that of Holywood, is in the County of Down.

The Unitarians have established a society in Belfast, the professed object of which is to extend their principles, by missionary preaching and the circulation of religious works. It is termed the Unitarian Society for the Diffusion of Christian Knowledge.

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## CHAPTER XI.

### Quakerism.

THE appearance of this sect. (long, and still denominated Quakers,) as a distinct religious community, would seem to have originated in the ministry of the celebrated George Fox, although opinions, resembling those which he promulgated, had been individually entertained previously to the period at which he commenced publicly to preach his doctrines. This remarkable man was of unimpeachable moral character, although some of his views were enthusiastic and fantastical, as his opinions about dress, amusements, and pictures, his opposition to the common mode of addressing other persons as a violation of Christian sincerity, and his objection to the ordinary names of the months and weeks, which drew on him and his followers, much derision and contumely. At the time of the Restoration, "The Quakers," to use the description of Macaulay, "were popularly regarded as the most desperate of fanatics ;"\* and they were persecuted to the death, not only at home, but also in New England, even by the Puritans, whose own sufferings for conscience sake, might have created a greater spirit of toleration. Houghton says,† the amount of persecution inflicted on them during the Commonwealth, both by magistrates and mobs, was incredible, as they were whipt, imprisoned, extravagantly fined, brought into the Bishop's Court and excommunicated, and the cruelty exercised against them, in every way, was so shock-

\* Macaulay's History of England, vol. i., p. 171.

† Ecclesiastical History of England.

ing, that no person of humanity can now look back upon it without a feeling of shame. Still, however, they increased in numbers, influence, and public estimation, their doctrines being ultimately embraced by some men of eminence and high social standing.

It is one of the tenets of this religious body that the taking of any oath whatever is unlawful, and their strict adherence to this opinion was one principal source of the persecution which they so unworthily suffered. This disability was, however, removed by the 19 George II., c. 18, authorising an affirmation to be taken in place of an oath. They also hold the belief, that all wars and fighting are inconsistent with pure Christianity, and they therefore rigidly abstain from participating in them.

They admit marriage to be a divine ordinance, but they do not resort to the intervention of a minister in its celebration. They avoid pomp in the burial of their dead, and object to addressing any individual in the plural number, or by any title of courtesy, as being irreverent, or at best but complimentary.

Their discipline, in a great measure, originated with George Fox, and their code includes provision for monthly, quarterly, and annual meetings, the male and female members of the society assembling separately, and for meetings on Sunday, and on one other day in the week, Thursday being the day appointed in the County of Down.

Their arrangements comprise, further, regulations for conducting the business of the Society by a standing committee, the appointment of overseers to attend to cases of delinquency, and the enforcement of discipline, by admonition, or expulsion in extreme cases. The care of the poor is rigidly attended to, all parochial relief being strictly declined. Records are accurately kept of their marriages, deaths, and burials. The establishment of a general fund, raised by voluntary contributions, and termed the National Stock, defrays the travelling expenses of their ministers, the publication of religious works, and other necessary demands of the society.

When any of the members desire to marry, they acquaint

their respective men's and women's meetings of their intention, which has been previously published in two meetings, and the requisite inquiries having been made, as to the consent of parties, the freedom from previous contracts, the due provision for the children of any former marriage, the parties in a public meeting for worship, solemnly take each other in marriage, and a certificate of the fact, duly subscribed by witnesses, is given to them.

As a body, the members of the Society of Friends are good citizens, generally of sober, moral, and industrious habits, and consequently possessed of considerable wealth, which, with laudable charity, they never fail, in cases of famine, or other great calamity, to share liberally with the sufferers.

To persons chosen as elders, from their spiritual discernment and evidence of the soundness of their faith, is especially entrusted, the exercise of care over aspirants to the ministry, but the eventual recognition of their ministers, rests with the monthly meetings at large, including both the men and women, who are members of the Society, and who are cautioned to be very careful in giving certificates of fitness to those who desire to travel in the ministry.

The annual meeting of members, from the three kingdoms, takes place in London, on the Wednesday after the third Sunday of May. An appeal lies from a monthly to a quarterly, and on the last resource, to an annual meeting.

The earliest notices of the appearance of this sect in the North of Ireland, that has fallen in my way, are contained in a volume termed, *The History of the Rise and Progress of the people called Quakers in Ireland, from the year 1653 till 1700, and subsequently continued until 1751.* Their first appearance in Ireland was in 1656, and their first meeting was held in Lurgan.

The first missionary in the promulgation of Quakerism here, was William Edmundson, a native of Westmoreland, who had served in the army in Scotland, under Oliver Cromwell, and being subsequently in Derbyshire, in 1651, "where," as he informs us, "the name of a people, called Quakers, was much talked of, and



one George Fox to be the ringleader of them—various reports went abroad concerning them, some for good, and many for evil;” “but,” he adds, “my heart was drawn towards them for good.” Edmundson settled in the town of Antrim, and in 1754 he removed to Lurgan, where he was joined by his brother, and “a meeting was kept at his house in Lurgan, which was the first settled meeting of the Quakers in Ireland.”

During his residence in Lurgan, “being moved to go to the public worship-house there, to declare truth in the time of their worship, he was much beaten by Colonel Stewart.”

Subsequently he was joined by John Tiffin, from England, and they visited, in company, many places for the purpose of disseminating their doctrines. On reaching Belfast, there was but one inn in all the town that would receive them, and they had, consequently, a meeting in the open-air; and at Coleraine, they were not permitted to lodge in the town.

The first settlement of meetings of the Society of Friends in the County of Down, or its adjacencies, were as follows :—

In 1682, some meetings were held at Hillsborough, though with great opposition, but peaceably since the year 1699, and a large meeting was finally settled there, and a meeting-house built in 1748. In 1693, a meeting was established at Moyallen, by reason of the increase of the Lurgan meetings. In 1702, another meeting was settled at Rathfriland, and in 1722, a new meeting-house was built at the same place. In 1726 a meeting was established at the house of James Bradshaw, near Newtownards, and subsequently a meeting-house was built on his property, about a mile from the town, where it still stands, but it was never occupied for the purpose intended, the meetings taking place at the residence of Mr. Bradshaw.

A meeting was also settled at the Broad Oak, near Lisnagarvey, which, being on the confines of Down, was frequently attended by residents in that county. The same observation will apply to that established at Lurgan, in 1654.

A meeting organized at Belfast, about 1673, was given up

after a few years continuance ; but it was subsequently resumed, and there are still regular and influential assemblies held there.

In 1715, William Edmundson, accompanied by Alexander Seaton, visited divers places, in the County of Down, as "Dunaghadee," "Newtown," "Clanebuys," and "Cummer," having large meetings amongst the Presbyterians, "unto whom they were drawn forth to declare the way of truth."

The following extracts from the Life of Thomas Story, will have additional interest, from his having been accompanied in his journey, by the celebrated William Penn :—

"Anno. 1716, 7<sup>th</sup> mo., at the man's meeting at 'Ballandary,' and went with Robert Richardson to Lisburn, and lodged there that night. On the 28th at a meeting at Hillsborough. Pretty large."

"30th, at Lurgan—a very large meeting."

"At the meeting at Monallen," (Moyallen).

"16th—Had a meeting at Ballinahinch, a *village* where there is no settled meeting."

"17th—A meeting at Downpatrick ; pretty large and open."

"18th—A meeting at "Ralphryland ;" but interrupted by a mob of boys, partly instigated by the *Presbyterian Priest*, one Robert Gordon, and his elder, Robert Little, who went about to hinder their party coming to the meeting. Preached in the street. The boys stoned us."

The Quaker places of worship in, or closely adjacent to the County of Down, at present, are at Hillsborough, Lisburn, and Belfast.

The numbers of the Society appears to be decreasing in Down, being represented in the census of 1871, as only 253, and in the adjoining County of Antrim, as 363.

Full information, regarding this peculiar people, may be found in—

Rules of Discipline for the Society of Friends, 1864 ; Advices and Rules agreed to by the Yearly Meeting in Ireland, 1811 ; Barclay's Apology ; Memoir of the Life of George Fox ; Wright's

History of the People called Quakers, with additions by John Ruty ; Houghton's Ecclesiastical History of England ; and Neal's History of the Puritans.

To these may be added, a Journal of the Life of Thomas Story;\* obligingly procured for me, with other works, by Mrs. O'Brien, of Belfast, a member of the Society, and a lady of much information and intelligence.

\* Folio volume, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Isaac Thompson & Co., at the New Printing Office on the side, MDCCLVII.

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## CHAPTER XII.

### Antiquities.

THE antiquities met with in the County of Down may be classified as articles used in war, the chase, the household, or the Church, together with buildings, and fossil remains, cromlechs, stone circles, caves, pillar stones, cairns, crosses, military implements and armour, raths or duns, cashels, erdhams, shrines, abbeys, monasteries, priories, churches, tombs, round towers, animal fossils, ancient coins, military weapons, and articles of household use.



CROMLECH IN THE PARISH OF DRUMGOOLAND.

A cromlech is a structure consisting of two, three, or four unhewn stones of no definite shape, and of unequal height, arranged so as to form an imperfect enclosure, over which is placed, like a roof, another huge flat stone, usually in a sloping position, the whole constituting a kind of rude chamber of very varying dimensions. Numerous specimens of the cromlech still remain.

The term cromlech has been variously derived, from lech, a stone, and the Celtic crom, crooked ; or from Crom one of the ancient " Irish deities, implying either the stone of Crom, or the curved stone, with reference to the roofs being usually found in an oblique position."



CROMLECH AT SLIDDERYFORD.

The principal cromlechs in this county are at Sliderryford, Greengraves or the Kempe stone, near Dundonald, the demesne of Mountstewart, Loughmoney, near Downpatrick, Slievenagriddle mountain, the parishes of Drumgooland, and Clonduff ; Kilfeaghan between Kilkeel and Warrenpoint, and the shore of Louginisland lake. One, which formerly stood near Dromore, has been entirely removed, and no doubt many others. In some of the above cromlechs the covering stones are from nine to eleven feet in length.

Cromlechs are often found within the area of stone circles, and occasionally beneath tumuli or cairns. The common opinion is

that they were either Druidical altars, or sepulchres, popularly termed giant's graves, and that they were used for burial purposes is demonstrated by the discovery of cinerary urns, human bones, and even entire skeletons underneath. The precise era of this kind of erection cannot be assigned, but its origin was certainly anterior to the introduction of Christianity.

The cromlechs or sloping stones were anciently called Bothal or the House of God, and the Hebrew Bothal has a similar signification, which would support the view, that they may have really been used as places of worship, and there is nothing incongruous in the opinion, that they may have served the double purpose of burial places and altars.

Kistvaens, although something resembling, were yet quite distinct from the cromlech. They are composed of flags, nearly of equal size, set on edge, and having coverings of the same material, forming, in point of fact, a kind of stone boxes, placed either above, or below the surface of the ground, three or four feet in width, and varying in dimensions from a few feet to several yards in length. Like the cromlechs, they also are called giant's graves. A good example of these sepulchres may be seen near Killowen, in the vicinity of Rostrevor, and another near the Roman Catholic chapel of Kilkeel. An excellent specimen of the cromlech occurs near Ballylesson, situated in a circular plain termed the giant's ring, which is formed by a large earthen rampart. Its component parts are an enormous stone, seven feet in length, by more than six in breadth, mounted on three supporters, and two to three feet in height, the whole being surrounded by several other large stones, irregularly placed. When standing at the cromlech, the view is entirely circumscribed by the sloping rampart, but from its summit, on which two persons can walk abreast, there is a fine view of the vale of the Lagan, a rich and well-wooded tract of country, with the Lisburn mountains and the Cave-hill in the back-ground. The smooth grassy circle, near the centre of which the cromlech is situated, is about 200 yards in diameter. On a slab, let into the wall, at the inside of the gate, there is an inscription com-



memorating a visit of Sophia, Viscountess Dungannon, in 1856, to this very curious relique of the past, which is situated on an estate, at that time belonging to Lord Dungannon, but now the property of Sir Thomas Bateson. On the outside there is another lettered subscription, informing the reader that the stone wall surrounding the ring was erected in 1841 by Arthur, the then Viscount Dungannon, for the protection of the place, and commending it to the care of his successors, a request which has been very imperfectly complied with, as the entrance wicket has been thrown down, and the wall dilapidated in various places.

Pillar stones, or standing stones (in Irish *coirthe* or *cairthe*) generally termed *leagauns*, and *gallaums*, or *maenhir*, have been variously surmised to be idol stones, land-marks, and stones of memorial, but their origin is shrouded in impenetrable mystery. Many of them are plain, others bear inscriptions in the Ogham character, but none of these latter exist in the County of Down. They are usually rough and unhewn, and about six to ten feet high, standing in some places in groups, and in others singly. Pillar stones, sometimes called Ogham stones, differ in no material respect from the "hoarstones" of England, the "haresstones" of Scotland, and the "maen-gwyr" of Wales.

They are common in Down, and one may be seen near the road from Bangor to Donaghadee, another between Rathfriland and Loughbrickland, a third near Slidderlyford, and the fourth formed of a granite block, and termed the Longstone, at Barmeen, on the old road from Newry to Rathfriland.

In some cases the pillar stones or holestones have a hole pierced through their upper part. They are believed by some to have been sundials, and by others places for the ratification of contracts, effected by the parties joining hands through the holes. Possibly they may have been used for the punishment of criminals, fastened to them by chains.

In the work of Dubourdieu may be seen the facsimile of a curious, but imperfect inscription, discovered on a stone, which was found

in a rath, near Seaford, but all my researches, to ascertain whether it is still in existence, have proved fruitless. A communication regarding it was made to the Royal Irish Academy, by Dr. Samuel Ferguson, of the Public Record Office, in Dublin, whose skill in deciphering the Ogham Legends is well known. On applying to him, he very obligingly addressed a communication to me which, probably, contains all that is known on the subject :—



IRISH CROSS—ROSTREVOR.

“We all agree in reading ‘Oroich ar,’ as the first parts of the inscription, but differ as to the rest. Dr. Reeves and Mr. Hen-

nessy read it as 'Onmain' (a prayer for the soul of), whilst I read it 'Ekhat' (a prayer for Echat), which seems the preferable reading, because Racot, at or near where it was found, appears written 'Rath ekehelt,' in old documents. The inscription is plainly Christian, and if my reading be correct, includes a runic form of K. If so, it would probably belong to the ninth or tenth century."

The old stone crosses, some rude and plain, and some elaborately ornamented, are very numerous throughout the kingdom. In the County of Down, specimens may be seen at Newtownards, Drumgooland, Rostrevor, and a few other places.

Stone circles, as known to most readers, consist of circles of large stones, imbedded in the earth, and rising to varying heights above the surface. These archaic structures are popularly called Giants' Graves, and they were probably intended both for places of worship, and interment after incremation of the body.

Good examples of the stone circles may be seen in the townland of Ballyalton, near Downpatrick, at Legainaddy, about three miles from that town, and at the Giant's Ring, and Slidderyford Caves. Some of these curious "Souterrains" are modern, but others are of undoubted antiquity. They are either natural or artificial, and they may be examined in the vicinity of Portaferry, Killough, Ardglass, Dromara, Newcastle, Castlewellan, Strangford, and Tubberdony, near the wall of Castleward demesne. That near Slanes Church is thus correctly described by Harris :

"It is about fifty yards in length, having a serpentine entrance, about three feet wide. It consists of five descents, terminated by an oval chamber, twelve feet long and eight broad. The height is five feet. The whole is formed of large flat stones, built like a dry wall without cement, the roof being covered with long flag stones, which are supported by others projecting about six inches from the sidewalls."

The uses of these caves are not well known, but they may have been temporarily resorted to as strongholds, in times of danger, and in later times, by parties engaged in smuggling.

Cairns, or tumuli, are coped mounds of stones of Pagan era, and of various sizes and shapes. One very remarkable cairn has been erected on the summit of Slieu Croob mountain. It is seventy-seven yards in circumference at the base, and its height at the greatest, is about fifty-four feet. On the top of the larger cairn are twenty-two smaller ones, varying in height from three to five feet, but now much dilapidated.

These cairns, in some cases, were probably meers or boundaries, and in other instances they marked the burying-places of persons celebrated for their virtues, or notorious for their crimes. They are frequently referred to in the Sacred writings.

The cairn near the village of Annadorn, in Kinelarty, is curious in this respect, that about one hundred years ago, it was discovered to contain a large smooth stone, of a square figure, supported by several others, above three feet and a half high, forming a sort of subterranean cromlech, having underneath a chamber, in which was found a quantity of ashes, and (apparently) human bones. And in a cairn or cairn, opened in Scrabo mountain, the workmen came upon a number of immense blocks of stone, enclosing a space in the form of an elongated square. On removing the large stone roof, a quantity of charred bones, including a thigh bone, a collar bone, and pelvis, were discovered. The floor of this building was rudely paved with stone, and an immense slab, over twenty tons in weight, lay near. Both structures had, undoubtedly, been used as places of sepulture. A mound of earth, in default of other material, was sometimes raised in place of the stone cairns, forth, dun, rath, and lis.

The terms rath, lis, dun, and cashel, are somewhat confusedly used by different writers. Cashels were circular enclosures (usually encompassing ecclesiastical buildings) which, when composed of earth solely, were termed rath or lis, but if constructed of earth, faced with stone, they were denominated cathair, or more usually

\* Dubourdieu, 271.

† Mr. R. Macadam in the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, vol. iii.

caiseal, the appellation of dun being applied indifferently to both. All the terms here referred to, were in use by the Irish, anterior to the introduction of Christianity. Of the stone cathair or lis, no example remains in Down.

The terms mount, fort, and rath, although often used indiscriminately, admit of this distinction, that the rath being constructed for the security of the living, was fortified by ramparts, ditches, and entrenchment, whilst the mounts were wanting in this kind of defence, in the majority of instances.

By another authority it is plausibly conjectured, that the appellation of rath, lis, and dun, applied to the same structure; rath, signifying the enclosing rampart, lis, the place which was enclosed, and dun, the central mound often raised within the enclosure. Many of the raths were inhabited as late as the fifteenth century.\*

Of the mounts, as distinguished from the raths, Dubourdieu says, there are three kinds:—



RATH AT DOWNPATRICK.

1st. Those encompassed with one rampart or fosse, of which an example may be seen near Saintfield. The external circum

\* Guide to Belfast, &c., by the Naturalists' Field Club, p. 213.

ference of the rampart of the Saintfield rath is nearly two hundred yards, and it is seven feet in breath. The ditch is four or five feet in height, and in a sloping direction, nearly forty feet.

2nd. Mounts, with more than one enclosure, of which that closely adjacent to Downpatrick, offers an excellent illustration. It is about three quarters of an English mile in circumference, and three artificial ramparts surround it, the largest of which is thirty feet broad. Formerly the tide flowed round three sides of it.

3rd. The third kind of mount having generally a square fort or redoubt, adjoining to the main trench, and some times other defensible works, is well represented by the mount at Dromore.\*

The earthen forts in the County of Down were extremely numerous, one being, in past times, visible on every hill, but more recently, some have been in part, and others entirely, removed for utilitarian objects.

The forts at Dundonald, Waringstown, and Donaghadee, and especially those at the Giant's Ring, Drumbo, Dromore, and Crown Bridge, near Newry, afford excellent examples of this description of structure.

The fort at Lisnagead, near Scarva, is remarkable for a very curious network, or rather covered way, of great breadth and depth, which runs from it through the demesne and garden of Mr. Reilly, to a considerable distance. It was probably intended as a line of communication between distant posts, perhaps of the Danish forces. There are three forts or mounts, which have the remains of castles still standing within their confines, situated at Castle-reagh, Castlescreen, and Clough.

These structures varied in dimension, from a space forty feet in diameter, to an area including eighteen to twenty acres of ground, being proportionate to the territories of the Toparch of the district. The smaller places of security lie within call and sight of each other, receiving their name from the safety they afforded,

\* Dubourdieu, p. 276.



Rath, in old Irish, implying security. It is correctly stated by Sir Thomas Molyneux that some of the larger raths have caves within them, but Archdall says, the majority have not. They have been frequently termed Danes' mounts, or Danish raths, but there is no sufficient authority for assigning their origin to that people. They closely resemble the Burrows or Barrows of England, being built in a circular form rising conically from a base, varying much in dimensions, and terminating in a flat summit. They are usually to be found on rising grounds, past which public roads now frequently run.

ANCIENT BUILDINGS.—The architectural ruins in the County of Down are not numerous ; a few, however, still remain in a tolerably perfect state, whilst many, in common with the long forgotten hands which fashioned them, have mouldered into dust, and the stout knights, who assailed and defended them, have experienced a similar fate.

“ The knights are dust,  
And their swords are rust,”

and only a few have left any memorials behind them.

It is singular, that the three great families, the O'Neils, Macartanes, and Magenisses, who, at one time, possessed nearly the whole of the county, erected so few castles or strongholds for their own protection, but they probably relied on the fidelity of their countrymen as a safeguard.

It is stated by Campion, “ that Savage of the Ardes, to whom allusion has before been made, alleged that he preferred a castle of bones to a castle of stones,” and O'Neil, who was created Earl of Tyrone by Henry VIII., cursed all his posterity, who should erect any houses, saying, “ that by building they would but do as the gowk doth make her nest, to be beaten out by the hawks.”

Con O'Neil appears to have had no other place of strength than his fortified seat at Castlereagh ; nor had M'Cartane any residence but that at Annadorn. The Magenisses, however, are said to have had a castle, built by Felix (of that name) in 1588, and

another, the ruins of which are still standing, on the summit of the Castlehill at Rathfriland.

So much importance, in early days, was attached to the safe keeping of the King's castles, that in 1537, Allen, then Chancellor of Ireland, advised "that none of an Irysh nation shall dwell and have the keeping of any Englishe mannes castell on the border," an advice, as we have seen, acted on in the case of Greencastle.\*

The rude fortifications, termed respectively, Rath, Dun and Daingean, were, says Ledwich, the only forts amongst the Irish antecedent to the Norman invasion in 1669, prior to which, each family lived in a mud cabin surrounded by a bawn. Queen Elizabeth and King James, in the distribution of the lands, bound each grantee to construct a castle, fort, or bawn, for the protection of his family and tenants, proportionate to the extent of his grant. The regulation required a castle with a strong court, to be erected where the grant amounted to 2000 acres, a stone or brick house with a bawn, if the lands extended to 1500 acres; and for a less quantity, a bawn alone was constructed. Badhuns or Bawns, were the enclosures to the castles, for the protection of cattle, the name of one being still preserved in the appellation of a small hamlet, in the County of Armagh, very generally known, from the humorous verses of Swift, as Hamilton's Bawn, though not now appropriated to either of the purposes suggested by the witty Dean. The Daingean, analogous to the English, Bawn, implied a fort, constructed by throwing up an earthwork, which was surmounted by palisades, interlaced with the boughs of trees. The Irish castles were of two descriptions, the more ancient termed King's Castles, being erected for the purposes of defence, whilst in others were combined a fortress and private residence. The castle of "Knockfergus" may be taken as an illustration of the former kind of structure. The square castles, once the resi-

\* State Papers, part iii. vol. ii. p. 482.

Ulster Journal Archæology, vol. ii. p. 41.

dence and citadel of defence of the nobles, were introduced by the Normans, and placed at numerous points for the protection of the districts under their control. Of these castles, some remains, in a or less perfect condition, still exist at Narrow-water, Bright, Kilclief, Greencastle, Audley's Castle, Castleward, Dundrum, Cowed, Jordan's, Margaret's, and other castles, at Ardglass, and at Strangford, Portaferry, Bangor, Dromore, Clough, Castle-reagh, Kirkiston, Walshestown, the Quoile, Scatterick, Mahee, and Killyleagh.

**CRANNOGS.** The frequency of small lakes in Ireland led to the formation of artificial islands called Crannogs, or lake habitations, as places of refuge. They were placed at a sufficient distance from the surrounding land to prevent approach, except by boats, or in a few instances by defensible causeways. A detailed account of the mode of their construction may be found, drawn up by Mr. Wylde,\* in the illustrated catalogue of the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy. They were formed, generally, of stockades of young trees, driven into the ground in a circular form, projecting several feet above the water, and being then interlaced with branches, they completed a sort of breastwork. Large stones, querns, hearthstones, bones of black cattle, deer, and swine, as well as discs of horn, used in playing backgammon or draughts,† have been found in these curious structures.

**ECCLESIASTICAL BUILDINGS.** Under this appellation may be included Churches, Abbeys, Monasteries, religious houses of different orders, cathedrals, oratories, cashels, and erdamhs, and agreeably to the prevalent opinion, Round Towers also. In rude ages, the Churches were erected with wattles and clay, or solely of wood, and subsequently of stone alone, which, at a later period, was cemented with lime and clay. The general opinion that they were not constructed of stone and lime anterior to the twelfth century, when Malachi O'Morgair employed

\* Petrie, p. 202.

† Ulster Journal of Archæology, vol. vii.

these materials in the erection of the chapel of Bangor, has, we think, notwithstanding the weighty opinion of Sir James Ware, been conclusively negatived by Petrie, and we cannot assent to the view of Sir William Petty, that, at the period of the Anglo-Norman invasion, the natives had no stone-housing of any description. The Scotie race built both their houses and churches of wood, though at the same time, as shewn by Petrie, the earliest colonists, including the Firbolgs and Tuatha de Danaan, erected their sepulchres and dome-roofed edifices with stone alone, in the cyclopean or pelagic style, the quadrangular form, upright walls, arch, and heightening of the doorways being improvements of a later date.

The early christian churches in Ireland were usually of small dimensions, and of an oblong shape, rarely exceeding sixty feet in length, by twenty in breadth, and often much smaller, and sometimes consisting of one apartment only, but frequently having a nave, separated by a circular arch. The masonry was massive, but rude, and usually of the kind called spawled rubble, ashlar work at this time, being very unusual, and the stones were often cemented with good mortar, and sometimes with clay tempered for the purpose, whilst occasionally no cement at all was used. The doorways were generally flat, covered with a single stone, or sometimes with a circular head cut out of one. The windows were few and very small, and much splayed inwards, and the jambs, like those of the doors, frequently inclined, so that they were narrower above than below. The jambs were built of large stones at the top, either covered with a single flag, or brought to a point by the inclination of two stones. Sometimes there was a rude arch formed by small stones wedged together. The roofs were very steep, often formed of stone, but none were so constructed, as far as it is known, in Down. The door usually occupied a position in the centre of the west end of the building, and the windows, in chancelled churches, were generally five in number, one being in the east gable, and one in each of the side walls of the nave and choir. The hori-

zontal lintel was common, both in doors and windows, as well as the triangular head. The sides of the windows, like the jambs of the doors, were usually inclined, and for the most part, undecorated. Amongst ancient churches, the chapel on St. John's point, is recorded in the Taxation, as the *Capella de Styoun*, the remains of which, so far as they still exist, will be found described in the second volume of the *Ulster Journal of Archæology*, by Mant, the late Archdeacon of Down. The doors of the ancient churches were generally unornamented.

The baptismal fonts, found in, or under, the ruins of ancient churches, are usually rude and of small dimensions, and generally formed of a single stone, with a hole in the depression to allow of the escape of the water. A curious font of this description was found in the church of St. John's Point, above referred to.\* The churches constructed of wattles, and the more substantial wooden fabrics which succeeded them, have passed away, and even the earlier edifices constructed of stone, with roofs of the same material, have long ceased to exist.

From the earliest introduction of Christianity, the cuicin or kitchen was an inseparable appendage to the religious houses. The *Erdamhs* were usually attached to some other edifice, and used as sacristies.

ORATORIES (*duirtheais* or *dertheais*,) were a class of churches essentially differing from the *daimtrag*, and as much involved in mystery as the Round Towers. They were usually constructed of oak, and appear to have been erected for the private devotions of their founders, although subsequently used by devotees as penitentiaries, and finally regarded as sanctuaries, although not always held inviolable. Bells appear to have been used in Ireland as early as the time of St. Patrick. Some, both of iron and bronze, are of a quadrangular shape. They, as well as the pastoral crooks, were long esteemed holy, and highly revered. The early croziers are curved simply, like shepherd's crooks, but

\* Wakeman's *Archæologia Hibernica*, p. 128.



many of them were highly ornamented, as may be seen in examining the specimens in the museum of the Royal Irish Academy.

SHRINES.—Prior to the irruptions of the Northmen, in the 8th and 9th centuries, there were few of the distinguished Churches that had not costly shrines, containing the relics of their founders and other celebrated saints. Thus, we are told by the Annalists, that Rachrainn, in 794, was burned by plunderers, and its shrines opened and stripped, and that Inispatrik was burned by foreigners, who carried away the shrine of St. Dachonna. In the ninth century “Ulidia” was devastated by the king Aodh Oirdnighe, in revenge for the violation of the shrine of St. Patrick. And with reference to the County Down, we are informed in the Annals of Innisfallen, that in 810, *Benchor* was devastated, and the shrine of St. Comgall broken by Gentiles (Danes), and that in the year 830, the shrine of St. Patrick was also broken, and carried away by the Danes.

These shrines were, many of them, of a very costly description, and some even constructed of gold and silver, as that of Conlaeth, Bishop of Kildare.

ROUND TOWERS.—Few antiquarian subjects have given rise to more controversy than the origin and uses of the Round Towers of Ireland, which have been variously described as belfries, watch towers, keeps, in which the sacred books, relics, and other valuables were deposited, phallic emblems, or Buddhist temples, places from which to proclaim the Druidical festivals, anchorite towers, penitential prisons, places of sepulture, and light houses, or as being appropriated to several of these purposes combined. Petrie maintains, in an elaborate train of argument,\* in which he confutes the fanciful notions of Vallancey and some others,† that they were used as belfries, watch towers, or places of safety,

\* Ulster Journal of Archæology, vol. 1.

† Penny Cyclopædia.

Wakeman's Archæologia Hibernica.



indifferently, as occasion might require, a view which is probably correct. Petrie further maintains, that these towers are of Christian origin, in opposition to the opinions of those writers, who argue that they were pagan or pre-Christian structures solely, and of others, who assign their origin to different periods, both before and after the introduction of Christianity. The surmise that they were erected by the Danes is destitute of any valid proof. It is here material to observe that the cross over the door at the tower of Antrim, and the crucifixion carved over that at Donoughmore, were considered by the best authorities, Petrie and Du Noyer, to be of the same age as the towers, on which they are found; and if so, to prove incontestibly that those buildings were erected by Christians, and for religious purposes.

The ultimate conclusion of Petrie is, that the round towers are of Christian and not Pagan origin, erected between the fifth and thirteenth centuries, and, on the whole, we think he has established his opinions by convincing arguments.

The height of these towers, which are round, cylindrical structures, tapering upwards, varies from thirty-seven to fifty feet, and their circumference from forty to sixty feet. The materials generally employed were very large stones sparingly cemented with mortar. They had usually a circular projecting base, consisting of one, two, or three plinths, and they were completed at the top with a conical roof of stone. Towards the base, the wall was never less than three feet in thickness, and occasionally it was as much as five feet. The interior was divided into stories, varying in number from five to eight, and generally about twelve feet in height, the space being marked either by projecting ledges of stone, or openings to receive the ends of the joists.

The lowest story was usually of solid masonry. The second story was generally perforated by the doorway, and stood usually at a height varying from eight, to thirty feet from the ground, and it was of such dimensions as only to admit one person at a time. The intermediate stories were lighted by a single aperture placed variously, and in general of very small size. The floors were

mostly of wood. The upper story was perforated by apertures irregularly placed, varying in number from two to eight, but the most usual number was four.

The strength and durability of the masonry of these structures is remarkable.

Round towers formerly existed at Maghera Church, Downpatrick, and Mahee, and possibly elsewhere in the County.

In the *Ulster Journal of Archaeology*, there is a wood-cut of the old abbey of Downpatrick, before it was rebuilt in 1790, with the round tower standing near it.

The round tower at Maghera stood adjacent to the Parish Church, and that on Mahee was situated close to the Abbey of Nedrum.

The round tower at Drumbo, although partly ruinous, still remains, and a perfect specimen, which has been preserved with praise-worthy care, may be seen in the grounds of Mr. Clarke, at Steeple, near Antrim.

When the round tower of Drumbo was examined, the debris first thrown up resembled the soil of the adjacent yard, intermixed with human bones, pieces of charcoal, and stones bearing marks of fire ; and at a depth of two feet, mortar and rubbish comprised the remains. After this, black mould, with a good deal of charcoal, and quantities of bones, chiefly of the lower animals, with a few short ox horns, were found. At about seven feet from the surface, the earth resembled the natural soil in the vicinity, being yellow, or of a light-brown colour, covered with a coating of mortar, about an inch thick. Close under this was found the skull of a human skeleton wanting the right arm, hand, and both legs from the knees downwards. The vertebræ were undisturbed, and the teeth remained in the lower jaw. There was no vestige of a coffin, dress, or hair, and nearly two feet beneath a layer of water, came the solid ground.

The round tower at Down stood forty feet from the old cathedral, being sixty-six feet in height, and eight feet in the internal diameter, and the walls being three feet thick. The entrance, which

was two and a half feet wide, was on a level with the surface of the ground. It was removed in 1790, to make room for rebuilding the cathedral. When it was thrown down, and the foundation cleared away, another foundation was found underneath, probably a continuation of the ancient church walls, but a subsequent examination failed to discover this second foundation. The Drumbo tower stood twenty-four feet from the North-west end of a ruined Church. It was about thirty-five feet high, and forty-seven feet in circumference. The internal diameter was nine feet in the clear. The entrance was on the East side, six feet from the ground. It is supposed there was formerly a small fortified town at Drumbo, and that the foundation of the wall was still to be traced, many hearth-stones and other remains having been discovered. Dr. Hodges, Professor to the Chemico-Agricultural Society, has a large collection of human and other bones, found from time to time, in the excavations made at the round towers of the county.\*

The writers on the round towers have been very numerous, and impressed with various views. Amongst the most distinguished, are Molyneux, Ledwich, Lanegan, O'Connor, Vallancey, Miss Beaufort, Cambrensis, Lynch,† Walsh,‡ Dalton, O'Brien, Moire, Brash, Windele,§ Moore, Harris, Gell, Ware, Brewer, Petrie,|| and Sir Walter Scott.¶

Amongst the ancient warlike implements were included the Tuagh Catha or battle-axe, the Target, the Pavie or shield, the Clockadh Sabhall, or wooden sling, the Celt, the Sword, the Skene, and short bows and arrows.

THE TUAGH CATHA OR BATTLE-AXE.—Some of these weapons were furnished with a spike, and adapted both to thrust and cut.

\* See a very elaborate account of the human remains found in the round towers of Ulster, by the late John Grattan, Esquire, contributed to the *Ulster Journal of Archæology*.

† *Cambrensis Eversus*. ‡ *Prospect of Ireland*.

§ *Historical Notice of Cork*. || *Inquiry* p., 14.

¶ *Quarterly Review*, vol. xli. 1829.

A specimen of this description found in Lecale, was formerly in the collection of the Countess of Moira.

The gallowglasses, the bulwark of the English power in Ireland, were armed with the battle-axe. When this force was disbanded their weapons were transferred to the Halberdiers, a peaceful body that, under the name of the Battle-axe Guards, attends on the Chief Governor; but the axe which they wield is altogether different from the ancient Tuagh Catha.

Swords of brass and iron were early in use, some having double edges, and many golden hilts, of which numerous specimens have been found.

The dagger, denominated in Irish a skian or skene, was invariably an accompaniment to the sword.

The Target or pavie, the shield of the early Irish, was not usually made of metal, only one specimen of that material having been found in the bogs. The targets were long and broad, and made of wicker rods, although round leather targets were also used. The loss of the shield, as amongst the Spartans, was held to be ignominious.

As in very early times the Irish had no artillery, the only battering engine in use was termed a sow. In the wars of 1600 the English also were badly supplied with this arm, seldom having any whole cannon, but demy cannon, sakers, and light pieces, and even so late as 1649, Ormond had only two whole cannon, three demy cannon, one *square* twelve pound gun, and one mortar piece.

The bronze antiquities, found at different periods, are numerous, and comprise swords, spears, spear-heads, celts, bridle bits, spurs, chains, pots, and other vessels of capacity.

At a very early era the Irish horsemen rode barebacked, until saddles without stirrups came into use. A species of the conical helmet, of the kind worn in the time of William the Conqueror, which was succeeded by the flat steel cap of the era of Richard the Second, was found some years ago in the townland of Bresagh, near Saintfield. It is made entirely of plate iron, with the excep-

tion of the carved mouldings round the eyes, and the projecting spud, which are of polished brass. It is supposed to have been a bascinet with the visor removed.

In very early times, when the Irish derived their support from the chase, the *Fiadhgha* or *Crannuibh*, a kind of long javelin, pointed with flint or bone, was the weapon used for the destruction of their prey, but spearheads of metal were subsequently introduced. Short lances and darts were also in use. The flint or stone implements found from time to time, were very numerous, including hatchets, battle-axes, hammers, knives, arrows, and javelin-heads. Flint flakes, of an oblong pointed form, and varying from one to six inches in length, of different colours, but usually white, occur in this county about Holywood, Strangford, Portaferry, Dundrum, Newcastle, Leestown, and Cranfield, and in the same vicinities are found the cores or flints from which the flakes were struck. Thumb flints called scrapers, from their resemblance to those in use amongst the *Esquimaux*, are also occasionally met with. Rough celts, too, sometimes turn up amongst the flakes in the gravels at Holywood and other places. The polished stone celts or chisels, locally termed "*Thunder-bolts*," vary in length from one to twenty-four inches, and are more frequently made of trap than flint, although often found in the same localities as the flint flakes. Arrow-heads, neatly formed of chipped flint, are abundant. They are variously leaf-shaped, oval, barbed, or stemmed, and sometimes quite transparent. The lozenge-shaped flint implements, highly polished, are believed to have been lance-heads. Stone hammers, of various patterns have also been found, as well as toolstones, formed of hard quartzose pebbles, the uses of which are only conjectural; and in rare instances, stone cups have likewise been discovered.

Two kinds of implements for tritulating grain were anciently in use, viz. : grain rubbers and querns, the first consisting simply of two flat stones, and the latter of circular stones, fitting into others of a concave form. These were the most ancient kind of mills, which were succeeded by the water-mills, introduced by King Cormac,



which consisted of a horizontal wheel, attached to a vertical shaft, the end of which, shod with stone, worked in a socket of the same material.

Part of a horizontal water-wheel, now in the Belfast Museum, was found, some years ago, near Killinchy. The material was oak. It consisted of a nave and upright axle, six feet six inches in length, cut out of a solid piece of wood, and round the former were inserted nineteen ladles of a curved form, which received the impulse of the water. These mills were common in Ulster three centuries ago, although down to that period, the use of the quern or hand-mill was quite general. The wheels were probably of Scandinavian origin, and introduced into Ireland at an early date by the Northmen.

COINS.—Gold was, no doubt, abundant in Ireland in former times. The most numerous articles made of this metal, so far as they have been discovered, are those in the form of rings, or rather of half rings. These have been surmised to be ring-money, as well as others made of silver or copper, as the Irish had no coined money till a late period, the first regular coinage being probably that of the Danes in the ninth century.

Various coins of silver, gold, and copper, of the reigns of Philip and Mary, Edwards I., II., III. and VI., Henry III., Alexander III., David III., Robert II., and James I., have been found, from time to time, in different places. A curious bronze box, containing coins of Henry IV. and VII., and a piece called an abbey-counter were discovered in the vicinity of Greyabbey, and are now in the possession of Mr. Montgomery, the owner of the place.

We may here advert to the copper tokens or money, very generally coined by private individuals in the eighteenth century, a measure rendered necessary from the want of a Royal copper coinage sufficient to meet the necessities of trade. They were struck in various towns, but we shall only refer to those issued in 1670, by James and William Thompson, of Downpatrick, whose

\* Ledwich Antiquities, p. iii., *et seq.*



industry and enterprise were rewarded by the realization of very large fortunes.

Unfortunately many of the most costly relics of the precious metals have found their way into the smelting pot. Amongst the most valuable remains of ancient times, we may enumerate penanuli, and various ornaments of gold and silver, golden cups, gold tones, and golden candlesticks. There is a crescentic plate of gold in the possession of the Downshire family, which is curious and valuable. Two gold rings, found in the ruins of Ardtole Church, bore respectively the inscriptions of "In God is my trust," and "Your virtue is your house." The letters were formed in the old English characters.

To the list of antiquities above-mentioned, we may add dishes (probably chalices or pattens), cinerary and other urns, Danish pipes, various fossil remains, leather cases (in Irish polaire), used for containing reliquaries and sacred books.

A curious phial for holding sacramental wine is in the possession of the Rev. Mr. Archbold, of Bright. A lamp of earthenware was found near Moira, but it was disfigured by indelicate images.

The musical instruments of an early era were the struc, or bugle-horn, with a mouth-piece, the goll trompa, brazen-horn, or trumpet, the corn, a metal bugle, resembling the horns of animals. The musical horn was the first wind instrument in use, followed by the wooden pipe, the dudoy or hornpipe, the piob-mala cuislean bagpipes, or elbow pipes, introduced from England, the drum, a kind of tabor, and above all, the clarsech or harp, probably derived from the Saxon, an elaborate account of which will be found in Ledwich. Specimens of the trumpet, and some of the other instruments formed of permanent materials, have been dug up in the bogs of the county, at different periods.

**BRONZE.**—Bronze caldrons were always made by hammering. A fine specimen, depicted in the fifth volume of the *Ulster Journal of Archæology*, was discovered some years ago in the townland of Raffery, in the parish of Killinchy.

Other bronze articles found, from time to time, are of uncertain use, but possibly they may have been musical instruments. A

peculiarity in the bronze trumpets, occasionally discovered, is the position of the embouchure at the side in place of the end of the instrument; but it may be doubted whether they were used as blowing, or shouting trumpets.

Wooden horse-shoes, constructed with nailholes for fastenings, as well as ancient Irish crosiers, have also been met with. These last were much shorter than those now in use.

A boat or canoe was discovered many years ago near the Seehouse of Dromore, embedded in a lough.

Various remains of the gigantic elk have been occasionally dug up in different parts of the county, but one of the most remarkable was found in a marl pit near Dromore, in 1873. It was long in the possession of Bishop Percy, but I have not been able to ascertain its subsequent history, beyond the fact that it was taken to England. The head and horns of this gigantic specimen measured by the curve, fourteen feet six inches, and ten feet three inches in a right line. The horn alone was seven feet three inches in length.

The aggregate amount of Irish relics would, no doubt, be very great, but, unfortunately, no means were taken in time to collect them, and they are in great part dispersed, some being in Dublin, some in Belfast, and others in Edinburgh, London, and elsewhere.

ANCIENT TOMBSTONES.—In a paper, read before the Naturalists' Field Club, by Mr. William Hugh Patterson, of Belfast, there is an account of some very ancient tombstones, to be seen in the grave-yard which surrounds the old Abbey Church at Movilla. With one exception, they were without inscriptions, and they are now used as head-stones, although originally laid flat.

The inscription referred to is, "or do dertrend," which may be interpreted "a prayer for Dertrend," probably one of the Abbots of Movilla.

In the Museum, at Belfast, there is a slab, brought from the Moat, now the residence of Mr. Thomas Valentine. It was sent to the museum by Sir Thomas M'Clure for safety, and it is surmised, but on very questionable grounds, to have covered the grave of Con O'Neil.

## PART III.

# INDUSTRIAL OCCUPATIONS.

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### CHAPTER XIII.

#### Manufactures.

THE great mass of the population of the County of Down is engaged in manufacturing and agricultural pursuits, but before we enter into detail, we shall introduce a statement of the numbers engaged in the several occupations, compiled from the Census of 1861, as that for the next decennial period has not yet been published, and as the population has somewhat diminished, the numbers engaged in the different classes must have diminished also in a corresponding degree.

In the document referred to, will be found a detailed enumeration of each particular profession, trade, and calling, and the numbers respectively engaged in them.

Class I. Includes the various trades ministering to the production of food, amounting to 42,585 males, and 3,296 females.

Class II. Ministering to clothing, 21,172 males, and 45,660 females.

Class III. Ministering to conveyance and travelling, 3,241 males, and 27 females.

Class IV. Ministering to lodging, furniture, and machinery, males, 7,076, and females, 9,783.

Class V. Ministering to banking and agency, 178 males, and 10 females.

Class VI. Ministering to literature and education, males, 1,012, and females, 392.

Class VII. Ministering to religion, 398 males, and 48 females.

Class VIII. Ministering to charity, as agents of the poor-law, and other charitable institutions, 14 males, and 10 females.

Class IX. Ministering to health, 156 males, and 21 females.

Class X. Ministering to justice and government, 812 males, and 6 females.

Class XI. Ministering to amusement, males, 34, and females, 9.

Class XII. Persons unclassified, including gentlemen and ladies, half-pay officers, &c., amounting to 14,794 males, and 3,189 females.

The great variety of occupations, in the present day, offers a strong contrast to the employments of the inhabitants at an earlier date. Up to the middle of the seventeenth century, attendance on cattle occupied a large portion of the people. The flocks and herds were driven from place to place, as fresh pastures became necessary, and these frequent migrations were termed *creete* or *creaght*.

Although agriculture is the chief occupation, various manufactures have long been carried on, and to these we shall now briefly advert.

**SALT.**—Formerly there was a heavy duty on salt forwarded from Ireland to England, which raised a revenue of about a million and a half pounds per annum, at that time. Salt-works were in operation at Newry, Portaferry, Bangor, and other places in the county. Those at Newry are still carried on, and the large crystals produced there are much appreciated for the table. The salt was manufactured by the evaporation of sea water, as no rock salt had been discovered in this country at that time.

Of the bloomeries or smelting furnaces, once numerous, I am not aware that any existed in the County of Down, for although wood and heath, the mediums of ignition, were abundant, “iron mine,” so called by Boate, was not then known to exist in the district. In the present day, the extensive iron founderies in operation are the Lagan Foundry of the Messrs. Coates, the Ballymacarrett Foundry of Mr. Carlisle, and the Mount Pottin-

ger Foundry of Messrs. Ritchie. In Newry there are two similar establishments, viz., the Soho Foundry of the Messrs. Lucas, and that of the Newry Foundry Company, in addition to which there is a spade and shovel manufactory wrought by the Messrs Carvill. Nail-making by hand was once a common branch of industry, and it is still carried on to some extent, but the demand has been greatly diminished since the introduction of nails produced by steam machinery, and the trade has declined all over the county, even at Newtonbreda, once the head quarters of the craft.

Carburetted Hydrogen Gas, for commercial purposes, is usually procured from coal, but it is also obtainable from wood, resin and oil. The latter gives a very brilliant light, but it is much more costly. All the chief towns in the County are now lighted with Gas, and at some of the principal mansions, as Castleward, Mount Stewart, Bangor Castle, The Moat, and other mansions, private Gasometers have been erected.

The purity of Gas may be tested by placing a little of it in contact with a solution of acetate of lead, which is colourless; when sulphuretted hydrogen, if present, will turn it to a brown colour.

**ARTIFICIAL MANURES.**—The great bulk of the artificial manures is imported, the principal works for their manufacture, in this county, being those established by Dr. Ritchie, in Ballymacarrett. They are on a very extensive scale, and all the manures severally adapted for grass, potatoes, and turnips, are procurable there.

**HOSIERY.**—The weaving of stockings of worsted, linen, thread and cotton, was general in the earlier part of the present century, but the produce of the large factories of Scotland, England, Balbriggan, and other places, has entirely superseded the use of the detached stocking frame.

Handknitting too, once a common domestic occupation, though still carried on for home use, has also, from the same cause, considerably declined.

**HAT-MAKING.**—Up to the early part of the present century, there was a class of artisans scattered over the county, who

manufactured hats from wool, which were disposed of in the adjoining fairs and markets. They were cheap, but hard and uncomfortable, and this branch of industry has almost entirely passed away.

Tanneries or Tan-yards are carried on in most of the towns, the leather being principally wrought up by the boot and shoemakers, for domestic use, although some is exported. Anciently Ireland was much famed for her leather manufactures, this article forming the material for many parts of the Celtic dress. Of late years considerable advancement has taken place in the art of tanning, which can now be effected in one half the time formerly necessary for the process, the produce being at the same time materially increased. Within the last fifty years, the consumption of leather in this kingdom has been trebled, a result in part arising from the more general use of shoes, not only by children, but adults. To go barefooted, as the phrase went, was nothing uncommon fifty years ago, amongst the children of families in comfortable circumstances, and even amongst adults in the lower classes.

PAPER MAKING.—None of the many paper mills formerly at work, now remain.

POTTERY.—The making of pottery of a coarse description has long been practised, and various potteries are still at work, stores for the disposal of their wares having been opened at the Queen and Albert Bridges, in Ballymacarret. Crocks and milk pans, for the purposes of the dairy, are the articles usually manufactured.

Large Brick Works are in operation in the vicinity of Belfast, and at the extensive concern of Mr. Samuel Murland, at Castle Espie. The bricks manufactured are of the common building, and perforated descriptions.

STONE AND SAND QUARRIES.—The principal sandstone quarries are those around Scrabo, and there are various extensive granite quarries near Newry and Castlewellsan. Quarries of different sorts of stone, are also open in all parts of the County, supplying in abundance materials both for the construc-



tion of roads and buildings. Sandstone of a fine description was formerly raised at Kilwarlin, in the vicinity of Hillsborough.

Starch Mills were increased in number, after the failure of the potato, as this vegetable in a diseased state, was extensively employed in the place of wheat, for the manufacture of starch. Mills of this description have been established at Portaferry, Newry, and a few other places, but none to such an extent, as to be of much importance in a commercial point of view.

**BASKET-MAKING.**—At one time, a celebrated maker of baskets resided in Kilwarlin, his fruit-baskets being equal to those imported from France. There are now two extensive basket factories at Ballymacarret, where articles of a coarse description, for farming purposes, are principally manufactured. Baskets are, however, made in many other places in different parts of the county, the ozier and hazel forming the materials in their construction.

**KELP-BURNING.**—Kelp is made to a very considerable extent, especially along the shores of Strangford Lough, but not having borne any duty, the quantities manufactured have not been accurately ascertained. Great fluctuations have taken place in the price, and in the amount brought to market. In the time of Harris the quantity was so great, that the manufacturers not only supplied the merchants in Down and Antrim, with as much as was required, for bleaching purposes, but exported extensively for the use of the Glass-houses in Dublin and Bristol, as appeared from the records of the Custom House which then existed in Portaferry. Kelp is produced by the incineration of seaweed, principally along the northern coast of the island, and the process is thus classically alluded to by a native poet:—

“ A race inured to toil severe,  
Of manners simple, and of heart sincere,  
Sons of the rock and nursling of the surge.  
Around the kilns their daily labour urge,  
O'er the dried weed the smoky volume coils,  
And deep beneath the precious kelp boils.”\*

\* Giants' Causeway, a Poem by Wm. H. Drummond, D.D.

Kelp is an impure barilla, consisting of the ash remaining after the incineration of sea-weed. It contains some carbonate of soda, much common salt, a proportion of salts of potash, and iodide of sodium. It was formerly extensively used for glass and soap making, and being subject to no duty, whilst a heavy tariff was imposed on foreign barilla, its manufacture was very lucrative. The reduction of duty on the imported article, and the substitution of a cheaper alkali made from salt, in the manufacture of common bottles and soap, for a time threw kelp almost entirely out of the market, but the discovery of the mode of extracting iodine in large quantities from the residue, after the separation of the alkali, again restored it to its former value.

TOBACCO SPINNING AND SNUFF GRINDING. were formerly confined to towns, in which an excise officer resided, or which were within the limits of a collector's district.

Tobacco was made in large quantities, and the snuff manufactured was also of considerable amount ; but there is good reason for believing, that smuggling was also extensively practised.

The trade in this article is still very extensive. Between 1794 and 1798, when the duty was 8d. per lb., the consumption of tobacco averaged eight millions of lbs. in the year, whilst between 1824 and 1830 the consumption was only four millions of lbs., when in proportion to the increase of the population, it should have amounted to sixteen millions of lbs. A large quantity was, therefore, presumably smuggled, and according to the evidence of the late Lord Sydenham, to the extent of 3,500,000 lbs., in a single year.

Tobacco is the Caribbee name for the smoking pipes of the natives, transferred by the Spaniards to the herb itself. The home growth of tobacco, never carried on to any great extent, is now prohibited by law.

VITRIOL.—This article, largely used in the bleaching of linen, is extensively manufactured at the Island in Lisburn, and also in Ballymacarrett.

**GLASS-BLOWING.**—At a former day large glass-houses, which are still standing, were established by the Messrs. Edwards, in Ballymacarret, where all description of flint and cut glass were made. A bottle factory was subsequently established at Newry, but it has long been given up. Recently a company was formed in Belfast, with the view of manufacturing at home, instead of importing, the vast number of bottles necessary to meet the increased demand, but sufficient time has not elapsed to test the ultimate results of the enterprise. The works are situated at Conswater Bridge, and there is also another bottle factory in Ballymacarret.

**BREWERIES** formerly existed at Downpatrick, Hillsborough, Newtownards, Saul, and Portaferry, but I believe there are none now in operation in the county, except at Newry. I am not aware that brewing is practised here, as in England, by any private families, although beer, which had been an exciseable article since the time of Charles I., ceased to be so in 1795.

The art of distillation is of very old date, having been known to the Greeks, Romans, and Arabians, and it was once carried on to a considerable extent in this county, but the only distilleries, long celebrated for the excellence of their produce, now in operation, are those at Comber, recently the property of Mr. John Miller, and at present belonging to Mr. Samuel Bruce.

The distilleries formerly at work in Newry, Hillsborough, Saul, and Downpatrick, have been for some time relinquished.

**LIME-BURNING** is practised extensively in the neighbourhood of Magheralin and Moira, and at Castle Espie, near Comber. A little also is still prepared at private kilns. Turf was formerly the fuel in general use at the lime kilns, but coal is now chiefly used.

**LINEN.**—Linen, in the wide sense, may be held to include, linen, cambric, damask, plain diaper, cheques, and linen thread. The manufacture of damask diapers, an article nearly equal to the real damask, in beauty and durability, was first established in Waringstown. Linen was formerly made in pieces one yard in width, the number of threads in which indicated the fineness of the texture. Thus what was termed an eight hundred web, contained that

number or threads in the warp, a thirteen hundred was, of course, finer, and an eighteen hundred much finer still. The quality of linen is now denoted by the number of leas, contained in each pound weight of yarn, each lea being three hundred yards in length.

The period of the invention of linen is unknown, but it is traceable to the most remote times, frequent allusions being made to it, in the pages of the Bible, and specimens of ancient Egyptian manufacture may be examined in the wrappings of mummies, even in the present day.

Linen was used in Ireland, at a very early date, and the introduction of flax, and the mode of manufacturing it, have been generally ascribed to Phœnician colonists.

In the 3rd century Cormac O'Cann is described as wearing a robe of linen fastened with white flax, and as early as the time of Niall the third, fine lint was exported to England and other countries. Macpherson, in his *Annals of Commerce*, alludes to the linen trade as being in a flourishing state in the beginning of the thirteenth century, the principal depots being "Ardmacha," Ballylisnevan (now Newtownards), and Beannchoir or Bangor, where it was made in quantity for Walter de Burgo, Earl of Ulster, and for the higher dignitaries of the Church, as a material for their ecclesiastical robes. The linen trade early attracted the notice of the legislature, and laws were successively passed, regulating the length of yarn, and prohibiting forestalling, and sales elsewhere than in the market-house. In the reign of Elizabeth, a duty, amounting in all to 1s. 8d. for the pound weight, was imposed on all linen exported to England, and subsequently, a still more stringent law came into operation, prohibiting its introduction altogether. Prior to this, the trade had been very considerable, especially between Ulster and the North of England, for as quaintly stated by Leland, "Irish merchants came to Liverpoole as to a good hayven, bringing with them much linnen yarn which Manchester men do buy." Prohibitory laws proved very injurious to the trade, and they continued in force

until the reign of William III, who was the pioneer to those principles of free trade, now so generally recognized. In the reign of Queen Anne, a useful Act was passed, which made provision against fraudulent practices in reeling, or the sale of yarn, which was then first imperatively required to be made up, in hanks.

By an Act of Charles II. it was provided, that any linen exported, being of a less breadth than twenty-seven inches, should be subject to seizure and the imposition of a fine.

But, with all that was done for the promotion of the linen trade, its progress for a long time was slow, and the working of the finer fabrics had rarely been attempted. But a rapid advance took place through the skill of the French refugees, who settled in Lisburn, and on the eastern confines of Down, subsequently to the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. In 1697, an act was passed for the express purpose of assisting the Huguenots, and encouraging the manufacture, a duty being laid on French and other linens at the instigation of William III. About this time Mr. Louis Crommelin joined the settlers in this part of the kingdom, where he spent the remainder of his life. Through his experience, knowledge, and energy, a great advance rapidly took place, although linen was not allowed to be exported free, until the fourth year of the reign of Queen Anne. Mr. Crommelin imported new looms of improved construction, from Holland, and had others made on the same model. At the same time, Dupre, well-known for his skill in reed-making, effected great improvements, not only in that, but in the loom-gearing, so as to remedy inequalities in the cloth; and the substitution of the spinning-wheel for the distaff and spindle, conduced to the same end.

The improved mode of measuring was effected by an implement called a reel, so constructed, that one hundred and twenty rounds of the winding wheel formed a cut, of three hundred yards in length, and twelve cuts formed a hank, four of which were termed a spangle.



Artificial means for stimulating the manufacture of linen were early resorted to.

More than 300 years ago, an annual exhibition of flax and linen yarn was held at the instance of the Right Reverend Arthur Magennis, Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Down, at which various premiums were awarded for superior excellence; and with the view of advancing the same object, a law was passed in the reign of Charles II., requiring that the dead should be buried in woollen only, and not "in any shirt or shroud, made or mingled with flax, hemp, silk, hair, gold, or silver, under pain of a heavy penalty."

The weaver, too, in the earlier ages, held a high social position, and enjoyed special privileges. He was exempted from serving on juries, nor could he be compelled, except under peculiar circumstances, to enter the army or navy. Many of the landed proprietors and their sons were, in former times, instructed in the art of weaving, a practice not unknown even so late as the last century.

With King William originated the system of premiums and protective duties, which was continued down to the reign of George III., when it was slowly discovered, that individual enterprise and competition were calculated to produce greater effects than any plan of extraneous assistance.

Prior to the year 1760, all linen was measured by the purchaser, and the result was, that constant disputes took place between the buyer and the seller, and an act was therefore obtained, for the appointment of seal-masters, to measure and stamp each web, but the weavers, mistaking their true interests, broke out in riotous opposition to this beneficial measure, and the first Marquis of Downshire nearly lost his life, in appeasing a tumultuous mob in the town of Hillsborough.

Various circumstances, for a time, tended to retard improvement, the principal of which were the production of linens of an inferior quality, fraudulent deficiencies in the measurement, and serious damages in the cloth.



Inspection of linen had been established by law nearly a century before the Linen Board was formed, but it was carelessly executed, and consequently ineffective; and in order to counteract the frauds which prevailed, an act was passed in 1719 (6 George I., cap. 7), authorizing the trustees to appoint "lappers", in the market towns, to examine the linens proposed for sale, and when found correct in quality and dimensions, to stamp them with an official seal, the omission of which incurred a heavy penalty. This statute was found equally ineffectual, as well as various amended acts passed between 1723 and 1749.

A bye-law of the Linen Board was therefore put in force, in 1762, empowering the Trustees to appoint seal-masters, to inspect all linens before being offered for sale,\* and the first seal was issued to Mr. William Dawson of Hillsborough. Disputes now occurred between the buyers and sellers, and the weavers misapprehending their true interests, consequently entered into a confederation at Dromore, and applied, but unsuccessfully, to the operatives at Bangor and Newtownards, to unite with them. Threats were publicly issued against the law, and a riotous mob assembled at Lisburn in great numbers. The house of Mr. Williamson, who had been mainly instrumental in having the enactment passed, was wrecked, and he was sought for, but in vain, with the object of murdering him. The rioters attacked Lord Hillsborough in Lisburn, but they were repulsed by the farmers who defended him, and they then forcibly imposed oaths on several of the drapers, to the effect, that they should discard the use of the stamp, and not submit to the authority of the seal-masters. These illegal proceedings went on for some time, and at length Lord Hillsborough, setting an example, sealed the first web in the market of his own town. The opponents of the measure were now overawed, and after a few prosecutions had taken place, resistance to the law ceased, and the weavers soon became convinced, that Mr. Williamson's efforts had been of great

\* Ireland—Staple Manufacture, p. 76.

advantage, the duties of seal-master being found to benefit equally the weavers, the drapers, and the bleachers.

Another great improvement was effected by Mr. Williamson, who, in the face of many difficulties, introduced the use of lime in bleaching. By regulations, at that time existing, bleached linens also were necessarily to be sealed, and the power of granting seals for the purpose was vested in the trustees, a body established as early as 1711, and of which, three of the members, viz. : the Earl of Mount Alexander, and Messrs. Samuel Waring, and Matthew Forde were residents in the County of Down.

Various improvements in the manufacture originated about this time, including the mounted or fly-shuttle wheels, introduced by M'Mullen, and a superior description of weavers' shears, manufactured by Robert Knox, a Scotch settler in Lisburn, whose celebrity as a mechanic descended to his posterity.

The linen trade was, at this time, in the hands of a great many persons, and as much as £1000 was expended in Newry by the buyers, in a single day, and from £300 to £700 in each of the lesser markets throughout the county, which had then more than eighty bleach-greens, and although the number had, in 1800, greatly diminished, a large increase in the amount of business transacted had taken place, as many as one hundred and fifty purchasers being in attendance at the different markets.

The foreign trade had also materially advanced, notwithstanding serious abuses, the principal of which consisted in placing a fictitious value on the linens in order to secure a higher bounty, and what was even worse, in re-shipping them, in order to receive the drawback a second time. But in despite of the very high charges, amounting to about ten per cent. on the value of the goods exported, they amounted, in 1780, to twenty millions of yards, five millions being shipped in Belfast, and half as many in Newry.

Prior to the arrival of Mr. Crommelin, the bleaching of linen was effected on the Bann and other rivers, in a number of small "bleacheries," but he made a step in advance by erecting at Hilden, a large and successful finishing establishment.

At this period, the turn out of three thousand pieces of linen in a year was considered a large business. Advancement, however, was still taking place, and machinery, for beetling linen by water-power was introduced in 1725, by Mr. Hamilton Maxwell, owner of an extensive establishment at Drumbridge. Previously (it is curious to know) this work was all done by women, on large flat stones ! At the close of the last century, it was held to be a considerable advance in bleaching, when webs, sent to the field in May, were finished at the end of the following August ; for the erroneous opinion still prevailed, that linens spread during frost and snow would be injured, and hence the bleaching season only lasted from the beginning of March to the end of October.

Alkalies had now come into general use, and the employment of lime, which had been suggested, was at first prohibited under severe penalties, but the chloride of this mineral was soon generally adopted in bleaching, its great value having been established by the experiments of Dr. James Ferguson, of Belfast, Professor Copeland, of Aberdeen, and Berthollet, the eminent French chemist. Prior to this discovery, potash and manure were used, with buttermilk, for the process of souring, and a great number of cows were kept to afford the necessary supply.

The old plan of not bleaching, except in the winter, was still adhered to, when Mr. Jonathan Richardson and Mr. John Hancock, of Lisburn, determined to ascertain the effects of continuing the process throughout the year, and as the results were satisfactory, another material step in advance was made.

In former times the cost of bleaching a coarse web amounted to nearly one half of its value. Even within the present century, the time necessary for completing the process was from ten to thirteen weeks, and the annual turn out from the principal bleach-fields was only twenty to forty thousand pieces. Recently, however, at the more extensive concerns, four or five thousand pieces, each double the length of those formerly made, can be finished in a week. Consequently the cost receded to four pence a yard, and at present, a piece of yard-wide linen, from fifty-two to sixty yards in length, may be finished for about five shillings and sixpence.

The linen manufacture was always a favoured branch of industry in this county, and the local gentry advanced its interests by all the means in their power.

During Lord Moira's long residence at Montalto, he gave all possible encouragement to his tenants in stimulating the growth of flax. He had a dinner prepared, every Thursday, for the cloth buyers who attended Ballynahinch market, and he sat at the head of the table.

The Earl of Hillsborough, too, at that time a leading statesman, exercised his influence in the same direction. He gave leases on liberal terms to bleachers and drapers; and after each monthly sale of linens, then held in the Square of his own town, he entertained every member of the trade, who had been present at that day's proceedings; and a number of other gentlemen acted in a similar spirit.

In early times fine linen was known by the name of Holland, much of the supply being imported from that country, and a particular description of this article is still in use.

Shakspeare refers to two kinds of linen in his time:

*"Hostess—*I bought you a dozen of shirts to your back.

*Falstaff—Dowlas, filthy dowlas,—*

*Hostess—*Now, as I am a true woman, Holland of eight shillings an ell."

As an example of the perfection attained in the art of making linen, we shall only refer to a piece shewn at the first great exhibition in London, by Mr. Thomas M'Cay, of Dromore, of such fineness and excellence as to gain the first prize. The warp was mill spun yarn, but the weft was spun by hand.

The Banbridge, Dromore, and Castlewellan merchants were also extensive exhibitors of plain linens, and the beauty of finish was not less remarkable than the fineness of the fabric.

In the year 1772, the sum paid away for brown linens was two millions sterling, and fifty years afterwards it had reached the amount of two millions and a half, one twelfth part of which was expended in the County of Down.

Whilst the forcing system was in operation, the expenditure for various bounties exceeded one hundred thousand pounds, per annum, but when Mr. Huskisson came into office, he determined to leave linen manufacturers, like other merchants, to their own resources; and it was finally arranged that premiums on Irish exports, until entirely withdrawn, should be annually reduced. Whilst the Bounty Laws were still in force, ten looms, and seventy-two spinning-wheels, as well as numerous pecuniary premiums for excellence in their use, were distributed in the County of Down, in a single year.

In 1811 the law rendering stealing in bleach-greens a capital crime was repealed, and robberies thereafter diminished. In 1816 linen markets were still held in Lurgan, Tandragee, Banbridge, Newry, Downpatrick, Kilkeel, Rathfriland, and Kircubbin. The average sale in Banbridge was £1120, Lurgan £1950, Newry £1000, and at the lesser markets £400 to £900. From 1830 onwards there were great changes, these markets being given up altogether, and at present there is no open linen market in the county. The following table extracted from the returns of the Salesmasters, shews the value of the linens sold in the County of Down markets in four successive years:—

	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.
Banbridge,	£61173 0 0	£58917 8 0	£57281 5 0	£77550 0 0
Newry	67450 0 0	65037 10 0	60956 7 6	71150 0 0
Rathfriland,	15730 0 0	14206 8 0	13714 12 8	18775 0 0
Downpatrick,	49237 10 0	46339 11 8	48392 10 0	39835 8 4
Kilkeel	17441 13 4	16520 16 8	10562 10 0	15625 0 0
Kircubbin,	2320 0 0	3791 13 4	6501 0 0	4229 3 4
Ballinahinch,	845 0 0	15 6 3	536 5 0	

THREAD.—The manufacture of thread on a large scale was introduced into this country, by the late Mr. Barbour, who established his works at Hilden, near Lisburn, where large numbers of workers, coming both from the County of Antrim, and of Down, have constant employment. Gilford, a mere village, when the late Mr. Dunbar established his great thread manufactory there, is now a flourishing town.



The principal thread factories now in operation are those of the Messrs. Barbour, and Stewart and Sons, at Lisburn, and Dunbar and Company, at Gilford.

At a remote era, prior to the times of Henry VIII, weaving was a common occupation amongst the females, as appears from the Breviate of Finglas, in which the legal provision was contained "that noo merchaunt's wife use any tavern of ale, upon pain of twenty shillings, as often as any of them do the contrary, but let them be occupied in making of woollen cloath and linnen." The wheel-spinning of flax too, at no very distant day, was not only a general occupation, but a fashionable amusement among the better classes. It has, however, long ceased to be general, with either object, having been superseded by the general introduction of machinery. The art of hand-spinning had previously attained to wonderful perfection both in Down and Antrim, as the following instances will show:—In Comber, two members of the family of MacQuillan could spin sixty-four hanks of yarn, from a pound of flax, which was carded, and the fibres split with a sewing-needle. In 1814, Mary McCance of Dunmore, near Ballinahinch, spun a hank weighing 12 grains, equivalent to six hundred and forty hanks to the pound, and Catherine Woods, in the same neighbourhood, when 15 years of age, wrought a hank of only 10 grains, weight equal to the enormous number of seven hundred hanks from a single pound. At the great Exhibition in 1851, a yarn of 760 leas was shown, the production of Jane Magill, 84 years of age, and another sample of 600 leas, spun by Anne Harvey, both residents in the County of Down.

The fineness of linen thread, whether spun by the hand or machinery, of course added to the facility of manufacturing the finer descriptions of linen.

**SPINNING-MILLS.** The first attempt at spinning linen yarn by machinery, in 1805, was unsuccessful, but in 1828, Messrs. James and William Murland erected Mills, constructed for flax-spinning by machinery, in the vicinity of Castlewellan, and the project was most successful, benefitting alike the workers,



shopkeepers and farmers, in the neighbourhood. The brothers, Thomas, Andrew, and St. Clair Mulholland, gentlemen of much skill, energy and ability, soon after established similar machinery in Belfast, and others following their example, large quantities of mill-spun yarn were woven, both for home use and export, which gradually increased to an enormous extent, and consequently an extensive immigration from the County of Down, and other districts, took place towards the large mills, in pursuit of employment, and the price by the bundle decreased gradually by one half, being reduced from 10s. or 12s. to 5 or 6 shillings, per bundle. At first the mill-spun yarn was of a coarse and inferior description, and the waste of material was considerable, the greatest length of thread from a pound of flax being only 8 to 10 thousand yards, but with improved machinery, the produce was soon increased to 60 or 70 thousand yards from the same quantity of flax. Other Spinning Mills have been established in Newry and its vicinity, including those of Dromolane, Mullaglass, and Bessbrook. Various and great fluctuations have, from time to time, taken place in the spinning, as in all other trades, the value of yarn having increased or diminished, to a large extent, in short spaces of time. Thus at the commencement of the present century, the prices were extremely high, but a sudden and great depression took place at the termination of Napoleon's wars. In 1854, too, a great fall in prices rapidly occurred, and it was in this year that the question of placing bleach-greens, under the Factory Act, was first brought before Parliament. About the beginning of this century there were 150,000 hand-looms occupied in the manufacture of linen, which had declined, in less than a quarter of a century, to 50,000, and in 1841 to 25,000. In the present year the number of power looms either attached to mills, or in separate factories is over 19,000. The hand-looms which still exist are devoted to the manufacture of the finest goods.

The largest proportion of mill-spinning is executed in the County of Antrim, but a very extensive business is also carried

on in the County of Down, especially at Castlewellan, Newry, Gilford, Banbridge, Dromore, and Newtownards. The demand for flax is consequently large, much being imported, and a considerable quantity home grown. In Ireland the culture had increased in 1809 to 22,831 acres in Ulster alone, and in 1864, 278,254 acres were allotted to this crop; but more recently the quantity sown has considerably diminished.

Cambric takes its name from the town of Cambrai. In the time of Louis XIV. some Huguenots settled at Lurgan, and introduced the manufacture of this article, which has been carried to great perfection there. About the middle of the last century, Mr. John Moorehead, of Waringstown, wove an eighteen hundred Cambric web, which attracted much attention at the time, and in 1794, Mr. M'Caw of Lisnashanker, near Dromore, sold a twenty-seven hundred Cambric in Lurgan, at the price of one guinea per yard. This was a wonderful effort of art, having reference to the difficulty of procuring yarn of the necessary fineness, and the inferiority of the looms in use at that time. From the commencement of the present century, this fabric has been manufactured with great success both in the vicinity of Lurgan and Dromore, including all descriptions from the coarsest to the finest, some reaching the high prices of from fifteen to twenty-five shillings per yard. The first web of very fine Cambric was woven in the Lurgan district in 1814, by an artisan named Browne, residing near Donaghcloney, and in another instance Moses Tallis wrought for Mr. Atkinson of Waringstown, a twenty-eight hundred cambric, which was considered the most beautiful article of flaxen goods ever seen in Ulster. It was sold in Lurgan at two guineas a yard. When bleached, it was presented to the Princess Charlotte of Wales, by Mr. Brownlow, the then member of Parliament for the County. The yarn was spun by Sarah Haughey, who, with Tallis, became local celebrities at the time. In the brown state, the web weighed at the rate of sixty-four hanks to the pound.\*

\* M'Call's Staple Trade.

In the beginning of the 19th century, the Messrs Thomas and George MacMurray, established a number of looms in the neighbourhood of Waringstown, for the manufacture of twenty-six inch wide cambrics, and the undertaking was followed by great success.

The Messrs. Richardson, of Springfield also entered extensively into this branch of manufacture, but great difficulty was experienced in getting warp of the necessary fineness, prior to the introduction of machinery. In 1832 superior descriptions of yarn became abundant, and the succeeding ten years, a great demand arose for cambric handkerchiefs in London. The weavers were now much improved in skill, so that in 1841 seventy-eight yards were woven as speedily as fifty-eight yards in 1831. In no trade are wages more fluctuating than in the spinning and weaving factories. From 1840 to 1841, they were increased by one-fourth, and they are now very large.

In 1849, the price paid for weaving a twelve hundred cambric web, for handkerchiefs, was 11s. 6d. the piece; in 1852 13s., and in 1853 18s. From 1850 to 1853 the rise, for some descriptions, was about forty per cent., but in 1857, a fall of about nearly the same amount took place.

Muslins were made of all degrees of fineness, and a good weaver could earn eighteen shillings to a guinea, per week. An experienced linen weaver, at the same period, could make 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d., and coarse workers, from 1s. to 1s. 3d., per day.

In illustration of the perfection to which cambric weaving has attained, we may refer to the beautifully finished handkerchiefs sent forward to the London Exhibition, by the late Mr. Henning, of Waringstown, one of which, a thirty-six hundred specimen, was of such fineness, that the warp was constituted of seven hundred and fifty, and the weft of one thousand leas; and a still more remarkable sample was a web, never equalled by the production of any country, wrought with a forty hundred reed, the warp and weft being respectively nine, and eleven hundred leas. The web was  $16\frac{1}{2}$  yards long, and being folded in a moderately sized envelope, it was forwarded by post to the Messrs. Charley, of

Seymour Hill, and finished in five days. For this extraordinary specimen of art, Mr. Henning was awarded a gold medal. Mr. Henning also shewed a tablecloth, the finest ever manufactured. In the grey state it counted three hundred and seventy shots, under a one-inch glass, and when bleached the threads of weft and warp were hardly distinguishable on account of their fineness. The pattern was drawn at the Belfast School of Design, and received Lord Dufferin's first prize. At the next Exhibition two years afterwards, Mr. Lindsay, of Ashfield, and Messrs. Harrison of Dromore, showed plaited goods for shirt fronts which were much admired and gave strong evidence of advancement in the production of textile fabrics.

Before leaving this part of the subject we may observe, that plaiting and seaming can now be as neatly and perfectly executed by the shuttle, as by the most expert needlewoman.

In 1857 cambric was much more expensive than the richest silk, but the facility of producing it, had so much lowered the price, that what sold in 1814 for 32s. a yard, sold, in 1854, at 4s. 6d. a yard; and handkerchiefs fell in price from 10s. to 2s. a dozen. From 1833 wages decreased, but owing to the greater quantity woven in a given time, the earnings were still ample. The Great Exhibition gave a fresh impetus to the trade, and the business done for the New York and London markets was almost incredible. Large quantities of cambric were used for hem-stitched handkerchiefs. This latter branch of the trade was introduced in 1836, by Mr. Henning, to whom we have before referred. It formed an important department, and employed a great many female hands, the more expert of whom were able to weave three times as much as in the times of their fathers.

In the year 1854, about thirteen thousand looms were employed in the cambric trade, and of these, two-thirds in the manufacture of handkerchiefs. On an average each loom produced thirty pieces in a year, each containing seven to eight dozen of handkerchiefs, the whole annual amount being about two millions of dozens. Of plain cambrics about four and a half million yards

were woven each year. The fabric was generally used for printing handkerchiefs, and ladies' dresses, a small portion only being bleached for sale in the white state.

Six hundred and forty-three hands were the most employed in any concern, in the manufacture of handkerchiefs. Mr. Thomas and Charles Richardson, of Springfield near Waringstown, and Richardson, Sons & Owden, had this number, and Mr. William Kirk of Keady, in the County of Armagh, had as many as four hundred.

Many persons are now employed in the hemming of handkerchiefs alone, which is effected with great neatness by the sewing machine.

**DAMASK AND DIAPERS.**—Damask is a thick linen of peculiar texture and fineness, universally used for towels, tablecloths, and napkins. It takes its name from Damascus, one of the oldest cities in the world ; having been in existence in the time of Abraham ! There is also a silk material used for dress, called damask, and another composed of a mixture of silk, flax, and cotton, or wool, which enters largely into the formation of curtains and other articles of house furnishing, but these are not manufactured in the County of Down.

Diaper is also a linen extensively used both for towelling and tablecloths. Its name is derived from the old French *diaspre*, or cloth of *d'ypres*, Ypres in Flanders having been one of the principal seats of the manufacture. The art of weaving damask and diaper was first brought to England by Flemish weavers, flying from the persecutions of the Duke of Alva, and it then made its way into Ireland.

Amongst the earlier improvers in the art of diaper and damask weaving, the names of James Bradshaw, William Coulson, and Michael Andrews, deserves especially to be remembered, for the two latter, although not resident in Down, have their establishments on its borders, and draw from thence a number of their workmen.

Amongst others, Henry M'Leary, of Waringstown, has left his name on record, in consequence of the improvements effected by him in the weaving of diaper.



Mr. Bradshaw visited Holland in the garb of a workman, and wrought for some time in the diaper manufactory in Hamburg, where he acquired much practical information, which he afterwards turned to good account.

Mr. Holden, of Waringstown, also early acquired so great reputation for his damask looms, that the Linen Board awarded him £100 to enable him to carry out his projected improvements in gearing and machinery.

Mr. William Coulson, the founder of the great Lisburn factory, commenced operations, in 1764, with only a small number of looms. Lord Hertford and Lord Hillsborough were amongst his earliest supporters. Half a century before that date, damask weavers earned from 25s. to 35s. per week, a rate of wages greatly exceeding that of weavers of plain linen. The works of Mr. Coulson were then in their infancy, but by the improvements gradually effected, the damasks which he produced were of such beauty and excellence, that their fame became extended until they attained a world-wide celebrity, and attracted the notice of most of the crowned heads in Europe.

We may here mention, as an illustration of the energy and hardy habits of the time, that Mr. Coulson rode his horse, the "*Colt*," to Dublin, in a day, a distance of seventy-two Irish miles; and some years afterwards, a linen merchant rode a mare, barely fifteen hands high, from Dublin to his own house, near Antrim, in about sixteen hours, and he was able, next day, to go to Ballymena market.

About sixty years after the first damask loom had been erected in Lisburn, Mr. Michael Andrews commenced the same manufacture at Ardoyne, in the vicinity of Belfast, being one of the first to adopt the Jacquard loom. By this invention, the old system, in which a draw boy read off the designs, was totally superseded. Mr. Andrews speedily raised the fame of the concern very high, and Mr. Robert Roddy, his partner, a native of Comber, shewed at the Dublin Exhibition, in 1853, some napkins and tablecloths, woven at Ardoyne, which, as triumphs in textile ornamentation,



were considered equal to the finest goods ever produced in damask looms in Ireland.\*

At the several great exhibitions, prizes for damask were awarded to Clibborn and Company, of Banbridge, for diapers, and Mr. Andrews gained a medal for a specimen of double damask.

At the second exhibition, diapers from Gilford and Banbridge, were extensively on view, the houses represented there being those of Richardsons, Dunbar, Dickson, Preston and Smyth, Moore and Weinberg, and Clibborn and Hill.

At the same exhibition, prizes for fine linen were awarded to Mr. Thomas M'Murray, of Waringstown, and to Richardson, Sons and Owden ; honourable mention being also made of J. and S. Richardson and Co., of Springfield ; Richardson and Co., of Lamebeg ; Mr. T. Malcolm, of Lurgan ; T. Bell and Co., of Lurgan, and Mr. William Coulson, of Lisburn.

On the whole, we believe we shall be correct in stating that the diapers manufactured in the vicinity of Waringstown, Banbridge, and Gilford, all in the County of Down, cannot be surpassed by any country in the world, and the skill and taste, displayed in their production, are so universally known, as to render any further expatiation on their merits superfluous.

Cotton (from the Arabic *Kutn*) a vegetable substance of a filamentous nature, is produced from the surface of the seeds of various species of the *Gossypium* or Cotton Plant. It was early known, the Egyptians being acquainted with its uses, but it was introduced at a later period than linen. Cotton was known both to the Chinese and Moors. In England no distinct knowledge of it appears to have existed prior to the seventeenth century, since which time the increase in its consumption has risen to a marvellous extent, a result in part attributable to the successive inventions of Hargreaves, Arkwright, Crompton, and Cartright, who were respectively the inventors of the spinning-jenny, spinning-frame, mule-jenny, and power loom.

\* Ireland—Staple Manufacture, p. 126, by M'Call.

Our supplies of the raw material come principally from India and America, constituting an immense trade, too often carried on in an eager spirit of gambling speculation. We have no authentic record of the original introduction of the cotton trade into Ireland. We learn, however, that in the time of Queen Elizabeth, Irish traders brought over from Manchester, small parcels of cotton-wool, which was afterwards spun as weft for coarse cloth.

A prejudice at first existed against cotton cloths, but before the end of George the Second's reign, considerable quantities were brought into use.

Cotton-spinning, at an early day, was a leading business in Belfast. Its introduction was, in a principal degree, due to the intelligence and energy of Mr. Robert Joy, at that time the senior proprietor of the "Belfast News-Letter," a paper still pursuing a prosperous course.

In 1776, Mr. Joy imported the first lot of cotton ever brought into the North of Ireland, and its manufacture went on successfully. Various improvements having been suggested by David Manson, a celebrated teacher in Belfast, whose name will probably be remembered by some of my older readers.

Belfast was the principal seat of the manufacture, but large quantities were woven in Newtownards, Lisburn, and Hillsborough. Mr. James Wallace, a native of the County of Down, established a mill in Lisburn, and Mr. Orr, another near Hillsborough. Mr. Wallace had the first steam-engine ever put up in the North of Ireland, to drive his spindles.

When the cotton mills first commenced working, the price of cotton was 2s. to 2s. 6d. per pound, and the spinners earned about forty shillings per week.

The cotton trade was very active until 1825, when great distress arose amongst the weavers. After this period, vast numbers were employed in Down and Antrim till the setting in of the cotton famine, in 1862, prior to which, 26,000 handlooms were at work, many females being engaged in this occupation.

In 1816, the manufacture of muslins, gingham, and the spinning

of yarns was carried on with great spirit. There were two cotton mills in Bangor, owned respectively, by the Messrs. Hannay & Co., and the Messrs. M'Culloch. In 1819, there were ten cotton mills at work in the North, but there is now only one, which is situated in Belfast, all the cotton yarns, given out by the manufacturers to the handloom weavers, being at present imported. Several years ago Mr. Richard Pelly, of Glasgow, opened an establishment in Belfast, for issuing the materials for cotton webs, and extensive employment was thus given in various localities around Belfast, Lisburn, Newtownards, and other districts in the County of Down. Fine muslins, handkerchiefs, shawls, shirting, and plaids, are the articles principally manufactured at Newtownards, this branch of trade having been, in a considerable degree, transferred from Lanarkshire to Antrim and Down.

Cotton weaving is the worst paid of all labour, and six shillings, per week, are the average wages at the present period. This employment is also most fluctuating, and leads to improvidence both in dress, and the mode of living. When trade is good, the majority of the workers put no limits to their extravagance, and when, as not seldom happens, a reverse arises, some of them have no resource, but beggary, the workhouse, or support from the contributions of the charitable, until better times shall follow.

We may here, in passing, remark that at the first Dublin Exhibition, calico, shambray, gingham, and muslin embroidery, as well as cambric, linen, and frieze, were submitted to inspection, from this county.

The extent and variety of occupations furnished by the manufacture of cotton are very diversified. Some females work at the loom, some at the tambour, and some at winding cotton yarn on spools, the latter of whom earned about sixpence a day. In 1823, machines came into use, by which two girls could wind as much as thirty by handwinding.

Calico-printing, perhaps the most curious of all the arts, has been practised from time immemorial in India. It was known to the Hindoos and Egyptians, but not introduced into Europe, until about the middle of the seventeenth century.

In 1790, Mr. Grimshaw came to Belfast, and had great success in this business. The printing of linen had, however, long preceded that of calico in the North of Ireland.

The introduction of muslin embroidery, in a great degree, recompensed the female population for the loss of the spinning-wheel. At the close of the last century 600 persons were engaged at tambour work, and it was more extensively entered into by Mr. John M'Ternan, a descendant of a Scotch family, at Lambeg. Tambouring is only done on light lawns, and satin stitch on fine jaconets.

In 1853, one hundred and twenty thousand persons were engaged in muslin and cambric embroidery, which is merely a higher style of tambouring, and about £750,000 expended on work and materials. The materials are most generally supplied from Glasgow, and the vicinities of Newtownards, Donaghadee and Killyleagh, became celebrated for superior work, which soon came to rival the continental imports, as it was both cheap and beautiful.

A cambric handkerchief, a unique specimen of this elegant art, valued at twenty guineas, was on view at the Hyde Park Exhibition, and it was considered to be unequalled by any article of the kind ever shewn in England.

Even the fancy boxes, used in packing embroidered articles for export, formed a large branch of industrial employment, selling at prices varying from two shillings and sixpence, to a guinea, each.

The muslin embroidery also gave rise to a new class of artists, whose business it was to draw the patterns, and when skilful, they could realise from two to three hundred pounds a year. The sedentary habits necessarily incident to the unremitting use of the needle, when long continued, cannot fail however, to be prejudicial to the health, although the same objection does not apply to occupation at the cotton loom.

Another objection to employment at the embroidery frame is, its tendency to unfit for every other occupation.

A wonderful change has taken place in the sewed muslin trade

since 1853, when it was at the highest point of prosperity, but over production produced its natural results, and eventuated in very extensive failures, since which it has declined very much, but a large business is still carried on in embroidering cambric and other fine fabrics. At a previous date, 50,000 persons were employed in embroidery work, and received in annual wages £500,000, whereas in 1873, the amount had been reduced to £30,000.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURE.—Trade in wool and woollen cloths existed, from a very remote period, in Ireland. As early as the time of Edward I., great quantities of wool were exported to the continent. The amount of the “Nova Custuma” export duties on wool, from April, 1278, to Michaelmas, was over £2194. A Florentine nobleman, writing, in 1367, says, “Irelande is worthye of renown for the excellence of the serges she sends us;” and the rearing of sheep, for the production of wool, was considered of more importance than the growth of flax. And subsequently, despite of all restrictions, the woollen trade continued to flourish, until finally ruined by the Prohibitory Act of 1696, which prevented the export of all cloths made of wool to any country, except South Britain, under the highest penalties.

The extent to which the trade in woollen goods had advanced is shewn by the Returns of the Board of Trade, where it appears that, in 1686, 1,129,716 yards of broadcloth, and 526,000 yards of frieze were exported, against 444,380 yards of the former, and 216,000 yards of the latter in 1865, many of the peasantry in Britain preferring that article, as clothing material, to any home manufacture. In 1697 the exports of frieze alone to foreign customers were 537,948 yards; to England, 127,601 yards, and to Scotland, 1,383 yards, and the home consumption had increased very considerably.

But, ultimately the restrictive legislation adopted led to a most extensive system of smuggling.

In 1730, fleece wool brought 5d. a pound in Ireland, whereas it could be sold in France, for 2s. 6d.; and the relative price of combed wool in the two countries was 2s. 6d., and 4s. to 6s. As



the profits of the contraband trade were enormous, the most vigorous efforts to prevent it were ineffectual, and four-fifths of the Irish fleeces were annually carried to France. Cargoes of spirits and wines were run in return, and their cheapness led to drunkenness, debauchery, and lawlessness. Froude says, "All persons, of all ranks in Ireland, were principals or accomplices in a pursuit, which could be carried on only by evasion, perjury, and violence. But all passed with impunity, as the revenue officers, being ill paid were, for the most part, easily accessible to bribes."

Some remnants of the woollen trade, however feebly carried on, still exist in the south of the kingdom, and of late years, a factory has been established near Hillsborough. Some difficulties have been surmounted, but sufficient time has not yet elapsed to test the ultimate success of the undertaking, although the specimens of the cloth already produced are of good quality.

Considerable quantities of frieze are made in particular districts in the county for home use, but little or none for sale.

In the time of King William, two brothers named Wolfenden, who came from Germany, established, the one a blanket manufactory, and the other a paper mill, the former on the Antrim, and the latter on the Down side of the river Lagan, but both have long ceased to exist, and the manufacture of flannels, in the vicinity of Belfast, is now limited to the weaving of coloured goods, with yarns composed of wool, and of wool and cotton mixed, imported from Belgium.

It is scarcely necessary to say that restrictive duties, both on wool and woollen fabrics, have been long since abolished.

CANVAS.—The making of Canvas was formerly extensive, twenty sail-cloth warehouses being open at one period in Belfast, but the trade was much injured by the imposition of a heavy tax, although it is still carried on, but not to any great extent. I am not aware of the existence of any sail manufacture in the County of Down, but there are two extensive factories for rope-spinning in Ballymacarret. The hemp used is all imported.



In Belfast Mr. Lemon and others are extensively engaged in the sail-making business.

Sewing machines, which have recently come into use, execute the work of many hundred operatives, and various manipulations, hem-stitching and raised patterns in particular, can be executed by these implements in a very finished style.

Blockcutting, once an important trade, connected with cotton printing, as well as handhackling, and wheel and reel-making, have nearly altogether passed away with the advance of machinery.

SHIP-BUILDING.—Prior to 1824, ship-building was carried on to very small extent. The only yard of any importance, in this county, is that of the very enterprising and well known firm of Messrs. Harland and Woulfe, situated on the Queen's Island. In constructing the new channels in the Lagan, three islands have been formed, and the Queen's island, which is the largest, has been laid out in walks, and ornamentally planted. The iron ship-building works, above adverted to, are the most extensive in Ireland, standing on eight acres of ground, and giving employment to about 2,000 hands. Amongst the largest vessels built here we may enumerate a number of Mediterranean steamers, several ships for the East India trade, and more recently vessels only second to the Great Eastern in magnitude, for the American passenger trade, including the Republic, Baltic, Adriatic, Celtic, Oceanic, Atlantic, Britannic, Germanic, Belgic and Gaelic, sailing between Liverpool and New York under the name of the White Star Line. They are all of 5000 tons burden, and 700 horse power, and cannot be excelled for speed, safety, and comfort.

The extent of this great ship-building yard may be estimated from the fact, that 17,000 tons of shipping have been constructed in a single year. Repairs are effected, and boats built, in Donaghadee, Portaferry, Strangford, Ardglass, and Killough, and occasionally some small vessels are constructed from time to time.

Very extensive works, principally in Belfast, are engaged in

the manufacture of machines, essential in the spinning and linen trades, one house employing so many as 1300 hands.

The Ulster Iron Works, including an extensive boiler-building yard, have been erected on the east quay of Abercorn Basin.

There are two lighthouses and several beacons on and near the island.

A new trade, the aerated water trade, has grown to very large dimensions in Belfast, and an extensive concern has been recently established in Newry. The principle of the manufacture is to force into the water, previously sweetened and flavoured with various ingredients, a certain amount of Carbonic Acid Gas, and then securely to cork the bottles.

PRINTING is well executed in Newry, Downpatrick, Banbridge, and Newtownards, but much of it is done in Belfast, where there are numerous establishments capable of turning out excellent specimens of the art. One of the leading firms is that of the Messrs. Ward, whose great establishment at Bankmore, is of extraordinary dimensions, and affords employment to about 800 people, in printing, illuminating, and book-binding, all executed in that superior style which has conferred on the enterprising proprietors a widely extended celebrity.

The making of shirts of linen, woollen and cotton materials, and of collars and cuffs, gives employment to a certain number of the population.

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## CHAPTER XIV.

## Commerce.

EVEN at a very early period the commerce of Ireland was by no means inconsiderable. Not to speak of the trade in woollen goods, especially serges, many miscellaneous articles were exported. The Royal Edwards drew large supplies from Ireland for the maintenance of their troops, including "wheat flour, peas, malt, beer, salt beef, salt fish, and red wine." On the great roll of the Pipe, may be seen the following entries of provisions forwarded to the army of Edward I. in Scotland, (A. D. 1229): Flour, 131 quarters, and 113 crannocks; Bran, 115 quarters; Wheat, 1147 quarters; Peas, 8 crannocks; Malt flour, 1 crannock and 7 bushels; Oats, 501 crannocks; Red Wine, 55 hogsheads and 1 pipe; Beer, 55 hogsheads. The crannock, it may be explained, was 16 bushels, or 2 quarters. The price of the wine imported into Ireland, from the 51st year of the reign of Henry I. to the 11th of Edward I., a period of sixteen years, amounted to 899 pipes, valued at £1798, a large sum considering the relative value of money at that time.\* At this period also the exports of wool to the continent were extensive, the duties paid in a little more than two months having been over £2194.

In 1637, amongst articles of export, were pipe staves, kelp honey, lead, pilchards, red and white herrings, salt salmon, butter, pork, beef, sheepskins, calves, oxhides, raw or tanned,

\* Great Roll of the Pipe, 7 and 8th Edward I., in the Birmingham Tower.

pelts, tallow or candles, iron, wool, linen, yarn, rugs, blankets, wax, goat and deer skins, oxen, cows, horses, wheat, barley, oats, peas, and beans; but the great civil war almost entirely destroyed the trade.

The foreign commerce is now extensive, and a regular Coast trade is carried on in wheat, barley, malt, oats, potatoes, cattle, and lime from some of the smaller ports, including Bangor, Donaghadee, Portaferry, Strangford, Killyleagh, the Quoile, Ardglass, Killough, Kilkeel and Warrenpoint.

Belfast and Newry are the principal ports, through which the imports and exports of the County of Down now pass, and the returns include those of the creeks or lesser ports. The various articles of import amount to nearly five hundred, and of export to more than four hundred.

From these the following most important items have been selected, to give an idea of the traffic carried on, in a single year (1873), but I have no means of distinguishing the proportions proper to the County Down, and to other places within the range of the Custom House districts above mentioned.

#### BELFAST CUSTOM HOUSE, 1873.

IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
Ale and Beer	947,814 gallons	Ale and Beer	38,057 gallons
Apples and Pears	10,717 cwts.	Apples	24,520 cwts.
Bacon	180,304 cwts.	Bacon	76,540 cwts.
Beef	3,476 cwts.	Beef	7,885 cwts.
Biscuit	1,007 tons	Brandy	1,814 gallons
Bleaching Pwdr.	41,913 cwts.	Butter	171,964 cwts.
Boots	2,582 packages	Cordial	18,762 gallons
Bone Dust, &c	5,785 tons	Cullett	281 tons
Brandy	54,074 gallons	Eggs	18,136 Boxes
Coal	667,830 tons	Flax	4,004 tons
Cotton Goods	19,715 packages	Gambia	8 tons
Deals	30,575 loads	Hams	124,542 cwts.
Divi Divi	46 tons	Hides and Skins	512 bls. and 37,412 bundles
Flaxseed	325 tns. 1,7534 hds. and 27,853 brls.	Iron Castings	1,177 tons
Oil	1,248,700 gallons	Meal, Oat	4,886 tons
Porter	1,440,882 gallons	Muslin	7,292 packages

IMPORTS.		EXPORTS.	
Rum	72,506 gallons	Oats	5,901 tons
Salt	37,88 tons	Oils	61,720 gallons
Sheep	2,112	Paper	1,107 tons
Soap	14,209 packages	Pork	8,275 cwts.
Spades	749 bundles	Porter	131,680 gallons
Gin and Geneva	18,892 gallons	Rags	1,906 tons
Grass Foreign	13,155 packages	Ropes, New	1,410 tons
Haberdashery	17,976 packages	Seed, Grass	51,856 sacks
Hides and Skins	13,400 bundles & 195 bales	Sundries	27,960 packages
Jewellery	128 cases	Tea	353 chests, 87 half chests, and 151 caddies
Mahogany	1,864 tons	Tobacco	128,912 lbs.
Sugar	407,920 cwts.	Twine	3,352 packages
Tallow	64,291 cwts.	Wheat	6,272 tons
Terra Alba	177 tons	Whiskey	1,446,207 gallons
Tea	37,943 chts. 10,584 half chests, and 4,221 caddies	Wine	18,082 gallons
Tobacco	154,704 lbs.	Woollens	1,267 packages
Whiskey	1,069,928 gallons	Wool	856 packages
Wheat	66,536 tons	Yarn, Linen	2,135 tns. 16,841 bls
Wine	331,476 gallons	Yarn Cotton	1,636 packages.
Woollens	23,950 packages		
Yarn Linen	156 tons 7,369 bls.		
Yarn Cotton	1,3677 packages		

We may here explain, that the terms *Divi Divi*, and *Cullet*, imply, the first, a painting stuff, and the latter, broken glass.

For the year ended the 31st December, 1873, the rates on goods amounted to £20,716 8s. 10½d., and the tonnage dues to £19 9s. 4d. The quayage came to £8,872 15s. 6d.

The tonnage registered in 1873, included 434 vessels, and 59,730 tons; and the tonnage entering the port during the year was computed at 538 vessels, and 1,268,845 tons.

The amount of customs collected in 1661, in the four ports named below, were as follows\* :—

In Dublin,	...	...	£44,298	2	5
„ Carrickfergus,	...	...	10,097	15	9
„ Donaghadee	...	...	189	12	10½
„ Strangford	...	...	127	16	6

\* King's Collect., p. 412.

From the same authority we learn, that the value of the imports, in the years 1663-64, amounted, in Carrickfergus, to £1,701 2s. ; in Donaghadee, to £130 15s. 2d. ; the exports for the same period being respectively £889 15s. 5d., and £1,048 6s. 2d.

A return of the import trade of Newry also, for 1873, with which I have been obligingly furnished by Mr. M'Cormick, the collector of customs there, gives the following results :—

No. of Vessels.	Goods.		Quantities.
23	Wood and timber	...	15,710 loads
78	Grain	... ..	665,061 cwts.
1	Flax	... ..	3,059 cwts.
1	Faxseed	... ..	636 quarters
1	Petroleum	... ..	35,780 gallons

This, however, does not show the entire extent of the trade, as coals, iron, wine, and many miscellaneous articles must be added to the list.

The articles exported from Newry are generally of the same description as those passing through the Belfast Custom House, as I find by a list issued about half a century ago : but no return of the exports from the former town is now published. At the period referred to, the outgoing trade, for a year, was valued at more than one million sterling, and the commerce of the port, there is reason to believe, has materially increased since.

The articles of export are not numerous but very valuable, including linen of all descriptions, cambrics, diaper, damask, butter, pork, cattle, horses, grain, potatoes, whiskey, cow hides, and calf-skins, fowls and eggs, with various other minor articles, and home-grown grass seed, and wrought granite, in large quantities, have of late years been added to the commodities passing out of the port, Mr. Robert M'Blain, a Newry merchant, having exported 20,000 sacks of the former article, bought up in Down and the adjoining counties in a single year.

The imports are, however, very various, comprising, sugar, tea, spices, foreign fruits, both fresh and preserved, timber, slates, tools



and hardware of different descriptions, iron, coals, spirits, rum, brandy, Geneva, wines of French, German, Portuguese, and Spanish production, oils, turpentine, wheat, oats, Indian corn, flax, and other agricultural seeds, broad-cloths, silks, and many articles of use and luxury.

A leading branch of traffic is in black cattle, the steamers from the different ports carrying over large cargoes almost daily. This trade is now free, although it was not always so, for an act was passed in 1663, by the English Parliament prohibiting the importation of fat cattle from Ireland, followed, in 1667, by another enactment, entirely excluding from the English market all Irish cattle of whatever descriptions. About the same time a similar prohibitory law was enacted by the Scottish Parliament. As some compensation the King allowed free trade to be carried on from Ireland, to all foreign countries, whilst excluding Scotch manufacturers from the Irish markets.

CUSTOM HOUSES AND CUSTOMS.—In early days there was a Custom-house at Portaferry, and until recently there was another, with the usual staff of officials at Strangford, but first the collector was dispensed with, and finally the comptroller and the other employés; and now there is only one officer, who is resident adjacent to the Quay at the Quoile. Strangford is, at present, a mere creek to Belfast, the custom-house having been given up to the proprietor. The Donaghadee custom-house, as well as that at Portaferry, has long fallen into disuse, so that the only existing custom-house officers for the County of Down reside in Belfast and Newry, and even in these towns, neither of the custom-houses stands within that County, that at Belfast being in Antrim, and that at Newry in Armagh. Both have a collector, with the necessary number of surveyors, and other subordinate officers.

The commerce, in Irish ports has been gradually increasing. The tonnage of vessels entering into Belfast and Newry, in 1856, amounted to 792,911 tons, and 99,451 respectively, while in 1873, the tonnage coming into the former was 1,397, and 265,970 into the latter. The greater proportion of this shipping is engaged in

the coasting trade. In the same year the customs duties received in Belfast amounted to £415,209.

FISHERIES.—The herring and other fisheries of the County of Down have long been of considerable importance. There are different fishing banks off the coast, which has been divided into several inspecting districts. The bank off Dundrum Bay lies at a distance of five to ten miles, and the east bank four to seven miles from the shore, and the ridge or bank connecting them commences near Strangford bar, stretching in a S.W. direction until they nearly join. Their width varies from four to seven miles, and the ridge is from three to five miles distant from the shore, having a depth of from thirteen to fifteen fathoms water. These banks all abound with trawl fish of every description, and with ling, cod, glasson, haddock, conger eel, and whiting. There are also several banks along the northern coast and Lough of Belfast, in which the same kinds of fish are taken. Very fine plaice are caught in Belfast Lough, on the coast of the southern district, which is about twenty-four miles in length, the fishing banks extending the whole of that distance, with a breadth of about twenty miles, and abounding in all the fish known in the Irish seas.

The fishing bank commencing off the Lough of Belfast extends along the coast of Down, to within three leagues of the Isle-of-Man, at a distance from the shore of two to ten miles, outside of which limit, the ground is muddy and unfit for trawling: but there is good long-line fishing for cod, ling, and conger eels, in water varying in depth from twenty to forty fathoms.

HERRING FISHERY.—The herring fishery along the east coast was, about fifty years ago, a shore fishery, in which small boats were principally engaged. It is now carried on as far as the Isle-of-Man, in large smacks and wherries, with nets of four fathoms, or five sling deep, having a strap of two or three fathoms. The nets of the English fishermen are seven or eight fathoms deep, with meshes of one inch in diameter, and light ropes, well sorted. The Irish nets are four breadths in depth.

Herrings are still caught in the season in Strangford Lough, but not in such quantities as formerly, the movement of the herring shoals being eccentric, and depending on natural causes which we have not discovered. The most important fishery station on the coast is Ardglass, where from three to five hundred boats annually assemble from England, Scotland, the Isle-of-Man, the backland about Ballyhalbert, Arklow, and Skerries. As much as £4,000 worth of fish have been captured in a single night. Some are dispatched inwards on carts, but the great bulk goes to Scotland and England in a fresh state. Considerable numbers are also caught at Kilkeel. Each boat costs from £200 to £300, and a trawl of nets about £120. Then the crews number some 1,600, exclusive of the men employed in transferring the fish to the various markets, or in the repair of the boats and tackle. In 1866, on the Ardglass station, the herring fishing occupied 67 days, and 23,235 mease of herrings were taken, realising £19,133. In 1867, in 76 days, 36,245 mease were caught, realising £21,475, and in 1868, in 71 days, 37,848 mease, valued at £28,862, and the fishing season might be protracted, if there were any safe harbourage for the vessels. A mease is 635 herrings. Occasionally as many as 60 mease have been caught in a single boat.

In 1776, when Arthur Young saw the herring fleet go out from Tara Bay, he rated the boats belonging to the whole coast, as 400, and the cost of each £15, and £10 for the nets. A boat sometimes caught six mease in a night, saleable at 8s. 8d. per mease, the great take having been in the Lough of Strangford until the four years preceding. There were then 110 boats belonging to Portaferry, and 12 "ships," which, after the home season, went commonly to Lough Swilley for the winter herring fishery. And he goes on to say, "The whole population of the barony of Ards are "fishermen, sailors, and farmers by turns." The prices at that time are thus stated: "Herrings from Scotland cost 20 shillings; from Sweden, 13 to 16 shillings, and home cured, 16s. to 20s. per barrel. Dry ling brought 18s. to

20 shillings, Hake, 14 to 16 shillings, Dry Cod, 14 to 16 shillings per cwt. ; and Wet Cod, brought from 14 to 18 shillings, per barrel.

**SALMON FISHERIES.**—There are no salmon fisheries of any consequence in the County of Down, the only river in which that fish is occasionally taken being the Shimna, which enters the sea at New Castle, as it has long ceased to frequent the Lagan, in which it was formerly so abundant. Salmon are numerous in the river Bann, but only in that part of its course, which is outside the confines of the County of Down.

In Carlingford Lough, salmon and mullets, as well as oysters, shrimps, lobsters, and crabs, are taken in abundance. The fishermen of Carlingford bay live principally on the Louth shore, and are a different race from those of the County Down, their language being until recently, chiefly the Irish. The vessels there are long half-decked smacks, with falling masts, and there are also numerous row-boats of the construction of the Norway yawl, heightened one or two streaks, which are so commonly used in Ulster.

Various acts have been passed, from time to time, for the encouragement of the Irish fisheries, especially the 59th of George III., c. 109, and large sums under these statutes were expended in the payment of bounties for the greatest quantity of fish taken, the purchase and repair of boats and gearing, as well as for the construction and restoration of the fishing piers.

In the successive reigns, since that of George III., other acts have been passed for the encouragement and regulation of the fisheries, and large bounties granted for the curing of herrings, cod, ling, hake, salmon, sprats, and haddock.

In 1848, the Act of 11 & 12 Vic. c. 92, first imposed a licence duty on all engines used for the capture of salmon and trout, and constituted an organized body for the protection of the salmon fisheries. By the 5th and 6th of Vic. c. 106, the principle of a uniform close season for Ireland was first observed, and the 23rd section of the Act 26 & 27 Vic. cap. 14, declares

angling, by means of rod and line, to be legal from the 1st of February till the 1st of November.

Under the Act 26 & 27 Vic. cap. 114, passed in 1863, Special Commissioners for Irish Salmon Fisheries were appointed, with full powers to make regulations and restrain all illegal practices, and further changes in the law are in contemplation. The extent of occupation under the Fishery Acts was very great.

In 1822, 2244 men were employed in the Carlingford district.

4028	„	„	Ardglass district.
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1396	„	„	Belfast district.
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In 1829, 2557 men were engaged, in the first, 3353 men in the second, and 2066 in the third district, in cooperage, sail-making, fish-curing, &c.

In the same year, between eighty and a hundred decked vessels were occupied in the trade, besides a large number of open boats and half-decked vessels.

The public monies expended on the fisheries in the County of Down, amounted, between October 1819 and August 1828, to £12,639 in the Belfast, to £23,258 in the Ardglass, and £6,035 in the Carlingford district. But more recently all bounties have been withdrawn.

The Commissioners under the Fishery Acts have divided the coast into three districts, mentioned, viz. :—Carlingford, extending from Carlingford to Newcastle; Belfast, so far as in the County of Down, from Belfast to Groomsport, and Ardglass district, lying between them. The several harbours, both large and small, all round the coast, have more or fewer vessels, of different dimensions, many of them half-decked, engaged in the fishing trade, including smacks, wherries, sloops, yawls, and row-boats, which last, in some of the smaller ports, are alone employed.

**BANKS AND CURRENCY.**—The present currency differs in no respect from that in England, but the former specie coinage was not the same. The Gold coins in circulation were the guinea, half-guinea, and piece of six shillings and eight pence, in value; the silver coins were a piece, value for ten pence, another



for five pence, and the half-crown and five-shilling piece, with a copper coinage of penny, half-penny, and farthing pieces. But the essential difference between the two countries was the value of the several coins being one thirteenth less in Ireland than in England. Thus an English shilling was valued at 13d. in Ireland, and a guinea at £1 2s. 9d.

When copper coinage at a former day was scarce and insufficient for the traffic, private traders were in the habit of issuing penny, halfpenny, and farthing pieces of copper, each with his own peculiar stamp and device, which passed current at that time. Several were issued at Downpatrick and Newry—specimens of these may be seen in any museum. This practice continued until 1672, when by the 12th of Charles I. a copper currency, consisting of pennies, halfpennies, and farthings, was issued from the Mint, and private coinage ceased.

There is nothing in which greater improvement has taken place, in the present century, than in the increased facilities for managing monetary affairs, since the strong box and bulky purse have been replaced by deposit receipts, letters of credit, and the check book. This improvement is due to the extended system of banking, as the leading banks, including the Bank of Ireland, the Provincial Bank of Ireland, the National Bank, and the Northern, Belfast, and Ulster Banking Companies have not only large establishments in Belfast, but minor branches in all the towns of any consequence in the County of Down, which have tended greatly to the development of commerce by the facilities they afford for the payment and transmission of money, the safe keeping of deposits, and the advantages accruing from temporary advances. The capital of the Belfast, Northern, and Ulster Companies is one million each. They are under the management and supervision of boards of directors and committees; and that they are well managed, success as commercial speculations, and the unlimited confidence reposed in them, sufficiently

\* Lake on Coins, p. 368. Thoresby, p. 379.



attest. A peculiarity in the Irish system of banking is the use of notes so low as one pound, whereas all payments, in England, under the amount of five pounds are made in sovereigns. Government savings' banks have been established at all the principal post-offices in the county, where an interest of £2 10s. per cent. is payable on all sums from twenty to sixty pounds. At the same offices, immediate or deferred annuities may be procured by persons of ten years of age or upwards, for any amount not exceeding £50. Money orders are also issued at these offices, at moderate rates, an order for £10 costing only one shilling. There are also private savings' banks, in which the deposits, are limited to £30 in a year, and £150 on the whole.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The mails from various quarters reach the County of Down, through Belfast, Lisburn, Portadown, Newry, and Dromore. There is at least one delivery, in the day, in all the post-offices, and in most of the towns, the letters are sent out twice daily, the correspondence having been infinitely increased by the reduction in the rate of postage.

No town or village in the county is now without a post-office, and many have also been established in suitable localities in the rural districts.

In the majority of towns in the county, telegraph-offices have been established, so that communication can be maintained between the most distant parts in a few minutes, or at the utmost in a few hours. This rapidity of intercourse contrasts marvelously with the slowness of former days.

There is a loan fund in Downpatrick, under the 6th and 7th of William IV., cc. 55 & 91.

The officers of inland revenue for the county, consisting of a collector and staff of surveyors, are resident in Belfast and Newry.

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## CHAPTER XV.

## Horticulture.

GARDENING, except amongst the gentry, is rather in a backward state, although considerable advancement has been made, in the present century.

In the larger establishments, vegetables, fruits, and flowers have all been as well cultivated, as in most other parts of the kingdom, and as successfully as the climate and soil will admit of; and to effect this object, green houses, conservatories, stoves, orchid houses, pineries, forcing houses, vineries, peach houses, and melon frames, have been erected on new and improved constructions.

In the gardens of the gentry every variety of culinary vegetable is successfully cultivated; but amongst the other classes, the production is usually limited to a few of the common sorts, more attention being given to the paramount interests of the farm. Great improvement has, in late years, taken place in the cultivation of both fruits and vegetables, as amply shewn by the superior specimens to be seen at all our annual exhibitions. In the ordinary gardens, the fruit is chiefly of the more inexpensive kinds, but in the better class, every description, whether of standard or wall fruit, is successfully produced, both under glass, and in the open air.

In recent years, the taste for flowers has also greatly increased, being stimulated by the competition excited at the various exhibitions, and the greater facilities for procuring improved specimens in the shrub and flower nurseries.

The horticultural shows in, or connected with the county, are

held at Newtownards, Downpatrick, Comber, Belmont, Newry, Belfast, Lisburn, Lurgan, and Portadown. At the annual exhibitions of these societies may be seen specimens of all the usual stove, greenhouse, and other plants, as well as excellent shrubs, fruits, and flowers, including lycopodiums and ferns, which could not, anywhere, be readily surpassed. The increased taste for horticultural pursuits may also be seen in the large number of competitors and visitors, who attend the exhibitions.

Within the present century large additions, previously unknown here, have been made to our stock of ornamental shrubs and trees, comprising, amongst many others, cotoneasters, heaths, and fuchias, of great beauty and variety, *kalmia latifolia*, *thuja* or *wellingtonia gigantea*, *aristolochia galeata*, *pandanus veitchii*, egg plants, *cedrus deodara*, *picea nobilis*, *pinus austriaca*, and other pines of ornamental descriptions.

The more elegant species of flowers include, carnations, pinks, calceolarias, verbenas, auriculas, cinerarias, dahlias, chrysanthemums, hyacinths, pelargoniums, petunias, tulips, antirrhinums, ranunculuses, arecas, caladiums, coxcombs, gloxineas, rhododendrons, gladioli, salvias, azaleas, acacias, and roses, in new and endless varieties. Some highly ornamental grasses have been recently added to the stocks of the nurserymen, who have shewn considerable enterprise, in the introduction of new, and improvement of the old specimens.

The grasses referred to comprise, *agrostis nebulosa*, *avena sterilis*, *briza gracilis*, *brizopyrum speculum*, *coix lachryma* (Job's tears), *erianthus Ravennæ*, *stipa filiculmus*, the beautiful Japanese maze, and the pampas grass (*Cyperium argenteum*), perhaps the finest species in cultivation. In this county, extensive varieties of trees, shrubs, and flowers, are reared in the nurseries of the Messrs. Dickson, of Newtownards, and of Mr. Davis, of Ogle's Grove, near Hillsborough, Mr. Hugh Dickson, of Belmont, near Belfast, Mr. Daly, of Newry, and Mr. Lindsay, of Downpatrick.

Down is not an apple-growing county, and there are few

orchards of any extent. The cultivation of this fruit is restricted by various circumstances, as the increased price of land, and the tendency of the trees to decay, not to speak of the precarious nature of the crop, the difficulty of protecting it, and its fluctuating price.

The cherry is cultivated amongst garden fruits, but there are no cherry orchards like those in Kent, and other parts of England, although the crop is a remunerative one, cherries being used for other purposes besides the table, as the morello is employed extensively in making cherry brandy, and Grenoble Ratafia is the product of the wild black gean.

The fruits in ordinary horticulture are the gooseberry, currant, strawberry, raspberry, apple, quince, cherry and pear; but in addition, the rarer sorts, including the grape, peach, nectarine, apricot, pine apple, and melon, of the most approved and varied descriptions, are brought to much perfection, by the gardeners of the nobility and gentry, many of whom evince much skill in their art.

All kinds of improved gardening appliances, some of them unknown in the beginning of the present century, are now in general use.

Artificial manures, recently introduced, may be employed with advantage as they are very portable, and force the growth of culinary vegetables, improve the quality of fruit, and increase the luxuriant growth of flowers.

Of late, a new phase of horticulture has appeared, termed, sub-tropical gardening, the culture, that is, of shrubs of large and graceful foliage, interspersed with brilliant flowering plants of low growth, in the tasteful and appropriate selection and combination of which all the beauty and grace of the art consist. As yet, however, it has not, to any extent, reached this part of the country,\* although both skill, taste, and elegance are exhibited in the formation and arrangement of the better class of flower grounds.

\* Treatise by T. L. S. Murray, London.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## Agriculture.

SOILS are distinguished as alluvial and diluvial, the former consisting of various materials washed down and subsiding in the course of rivers, and the latter, of the depositions of various substances spread generally over the surface of the earth. The ingredients of the soil are very numerous, comprising clay slate, sandstones, granite, lime, and other rocks, when disintegrated and converted into clays, by the effects of time and atmospheric vicissitudes, together with various salts, and some additional matters including the dark vegetable mould technically called humus, which contributes certain organic ingredients necessary for vegetation, at the same time absorbing from the atmosphere carbonic acid and ammonia, and increasing the temperature of the soil.

The relative fertility of land depends on the proportions of these ingredients which enter into its composition, and in this respect there is considerable variety in the County, which comprises in different districts mixed and unmixed loams, and mossy, gravelly, stoney, and clayey soils.

Gravelly soils intermixed with water-worn stones are scattered in many parts, but not in any considerable contiguous tracts.

Mossy and peaty grounds are mostly confined to the skirts of the mountains.

To the soils above enumerated we may add, certain tracts of deep and rich loams on the banks of the rivers, which produce grass abundantly.

The loamy earth, often mixed with stones of all dimensions, has various substrata. When clay forms the subsoil, the loam is stronger, more retentive of water, and more difficult to labour, and it requires more manure, but the produce is more abundant and of superior quality. As the subsoil approaches the nature of a hungry gravel, or what is termed till, the loam loses much of its fertility, and unless under high cultivation, the yield is very deficient.

Clay lands do not occupy any great extent of the County, being mostly confined to the east coast of the Ards, to the parishes of Donaghadee and Bangor, and to the northern part of the barony of Castlereagh, although smaller patches occur here and there. These clay lands are of good quality, yielding an adequate return, both in the quantity and quality of the grain.

The quantity of sandy soil is very small, consisting merely of a few stripes scattered along the shores, of which the most considerable is that adjacent to the bay of Dundrum. Part of this is cultivated, and part is occupied by rabbits, or as grazing ground, and part consists of shifting and unimprovable sand-banks. There is also a small tract of sand south of the Lagan, running from Magheralin and Moira towards Lisburn, and thence to the parish of Lambeg. This, however, having a covering of loam, forms an excellent soil, and is very productive.

Some of the most fertile lands lie in the vale of the Lagan, which flows on a bed of new red sandstone, on one side of which lies the trap formation of Antrim, underlaid by chalk and gypsum, whilst the clay-slate of Down bounds it on the south.

The baronies of Lecale contain excellent wheat lands, and the soil along the banks of the Bann is also of good quality.

The nature of the grazing, which may be taken as a criterion of fertility, is thus quaintly described by Boate :—

“The goodness of the pasture in Ireland doth further appear by this, that both beef and mutton there, as well that of the small Irish, as that of the large English breed, in sweetness and savouriness, doth surpass the meat of England itself, as all those who



have tried that meat confess ;”\* and there is no doubt that the moisture of the climate contributes not only to the growth of grass, but the various kinds of green crops also. Down, however, is rather an agricultural than a grazing district, although certain parts of it, especially along the banks of the rivers, afford excellent pasturage, only inferior, in this respect, to the champaign lands of Meath, the Plains of Boyle, or the Golden Vale in Tipperary. On the whole, the soil may be fairly described as of medium quality.

Fertility of land is pointed out by its depth, and the nature of the herbage which it produces, as well as by its vigorous growth, and on the other hand, a poor soil is clearly indicated by its shallowness, sandy or peaty composition, retentiveness of the subsoil, and the production of peculiar orders of plants.

Certain organic matters are essential, as shewn by Liebig to the growth of a plant, and where these are naturally wanting, or exhausted by cropping, the deficient ingredients must be replaced by the appropriate manures.

The following analysis of Professor Hodges show the respective deficiencies in the clay-slate and granite soils.

No. 1.—An analysis of undecomposed clay slate from Gray Abbey :—

Silica ...	...	...	...	60.66
Alumina ...	...	...	...	20.00
Protoxide of iron	...	...	...	9.60
Peroxide of iron ...	...	...	...	
Lime ...	...	...	...	0.74
Magnesia ...	...	...	...	1.09
Alkalies ...	...	...	...	3.91
Water ...	...	...	...	4.00
				<hr/>
				100.00

\* Boate's Natural History of Ireland, p. 50.

## No. 2—An analysis of granite from Annalong :—

Silica ...	...	...	...	74.00
Peroxide of iron ...	...	...	...	3.30
Alumina ...	...	...	...	12.20
Lime ...	...	...	...	0.22
Magnesia ...	...	...	...	0.45
Potash and soda ...	...	...	...	9.33
Fluoric acid and water	...	...	...	0.50
				<hr/>
				100.00

These analyses show deficiencies in lime, phosphorus, and potash, all essential ingredients in a fertile soil. The crops abstracting potash most largely are wheat, oats, barley, rye, beans, and potatoes, whilst lime is exhausted by flax, turnips, peas, and red clover, and phosphoric acid by wheat, barley, rye, flax, beans, and peas. It may be stated generally that alkalies, and lime, and its phosphates, are respectively suitable for clay, slate, and granite districts.

The chemical manures include guano, kainit, potato, grass, and grain manures, vitriolized bone compound, crushed bones, meal, and flour of bones, nitrate of soda, superphosphate of lime, sulphate of ammonia, and some others. The artificial manures are extensively manufactured, in this county, by the Messrs. Ritchie, at their works in Ballymacarret.

In selecting these manures, we should bear in mind, that wheat requires a supply of ammonia, and that phosphate of lime is indispensable for the vigorous growth of turnips.

The manures in general use are lime, farm-yard manure, the chemical manures, and more partially, marl, seaweed, and peat.

The ploughing down of rape or other plants is a practice little followed in this country.

The burnt lime, commonly employed, is principally procured from Carlingford, Castle Espie, the neighbourhood of Moira, Belfast, and Magheramorne, near Larne. Lime is usually applied to the

soil, in the condition of a hydrate, and in a limited degree, in the form of limestone gravel. The following is the analysis by Professor Hodges of the Castle Espie lime:—One hundred parts contained, of lime, 50.58; carbonate of lime, 29.68; magnesia, 0.90; sand, 0.60; soluble silicic acid, 1.55, and the other limes in the county do not materially differ.

The value of guano which consists of the excretion of certain sea birds, depends on its phosphates and nitrogen, and it consists, according to the elaborate analysis of Mr. Denham Smyth, of the following ingredients:—

Water ...	...	...	...	21.510
Organic matter and combined water				12.296
Potash	...	...	...	1.144
Soda ...	...	...	...	3.430
Ammonia	...	...	...	5.434
Lime ...	...	...	...	15.356
Magnesia	...	...	...	0.764
Muriatic acid	...	...	...	2.414
Sulphuric acid ..	...	...	...	2.106
Oxalic acid	...	...	...	12.850
Phosphoric acid	...	...	...	16.328
Uric acid	...	...	...	2.308
Humus	...	...	...	2.060
Sand ...	...	...	...	1.648
Loss ..	...	...	...	.352
				<hr/>
				100.000

The virtue of kainit as a manure is owing to the potash which it contains; but it has not yet been sufficiently tested, to demonstrate its practical value; and as samples of adulterated guano are common in the market, the purchaser requires to be on his guard.

Farm-yard manure is one of the best, ten tons of it containing about one hundred weight of ammonia, seventy-eight pounds of

phosphoric acid, and seventy pounds of potash, but in preparing it, the error of over-rotting is frequently committed.

Hornblende, extensively used in Cornwall as a manure, abounds in this county, and a trial of it here might, therefore, be made with advantage. Shells, and shelly sand and gravel, where available, are employed to some extent, and act very beneficially on heavy soils.

Marl, or clay marl, is composed of carbonate of lime, silica, alumina, and portions of the oxides of iron and manganese. It was formerly laid on peaty, sandy, and gravelly soils, in quantities varying from one to four hundred bushels to the acre. Shell marl is quite a different substance, being a deposit of marine and land shells, usually of a white colour. It was applied in the proportion of twenty-five to forty cart-loads to the acre. In the past century an immediate advance, to the amount of fourfold, took place in the value of land in Lecale, from the results of marling, introduced by the Honourable Michael Ward, which was followed by the establishment of an export trade in corn, from the port of Strangford; but by its imprudent and excessive use the soil was exhausted in some years. Marl, however, is now very little used, the marl beds, so far as I can ascertain, being nearly exhausted.

What is generically called sea-weed comprises various species of the fuci, including the crimson, oak leaf, and dotted descriptions, some of which are esculent. The best known of these are the fucus palmatus, commonly sold as dillisch or dulse, the fucus esculentus, or murlins, of which the leaflets only are eaten, and ulva umbilicus, which under the name of laver in England, and sloke in Ireland, is highly prized for the table. Of the larger species of fuci, the knotted wrack, seaware or tangle (fucus nodosus), and bladder wrack (fucus vesiculosus), are principally used as manure, applied to the soil in an unmixed state, either moist or dried, or else formed into a compost with earths of various kinds.

Peat contains all the elements of the richest manure, readily convertible into humus, by adding lime to neutralize the gallic

acid, and by exciting fermentation, which may be effected by the admixture of clay, urine, or farmyard manure. The soils to which peaty manure is most applicable are those of a chalky or clayey nature. The burning of peat destroys the vegetable matter, leaving as a residue, the earth and salts, which are sometimes used, and act very powerfully and advantageously, as stimulants to vegetation in good soils, but on poor ground, though an increase of stems and leaves may follow their application, the produce in seed may be diminished in place of being increased, by these and similar exciting manures, such as soot, potash and saltpetre.

I may here observe, that manures of all kinds are now used by the County of Down farmers, in much larger and more suitable proportions, than in the beginning of the century, as they have gradually become convinced, that a smaller quantity of ground in high condition will make a better return than a larger quantity, under scanty manuring, but in addition to manure fallowing, rotation of crops, and alteration of the consistency of the soil by mechanical culture, admixture of different earths, and drainage, are necessary for attaining the greatest amount of produce.

The improvement of agriculture within this century is obvious to every observer, but a marked defect is the want of due care in the extirpation of weeds, and the prevention of their reproduction, a point to which attention has been repeatedly drawn by Sir John Donnelly, the Registrar-General. On this point ample information may be found in an essay, for which Mr. Buckman, Professor in the Agricultural College of Chichester, received the prize of the Royal Agricultural Society of England.

Before leaving this part of the subject, it may be desirable to take notice of the theory of the celebrated Jethro Tull, which implied, that good crops might be produced, consecutively, without the application of manure, the more especially, as some slight attempts have been made to revive the practice which he pursued. The introduction of horse-hoeing and drill planting, however, due to that gentleman, and advocated by Cobbett in

his Cottage economy, unquestionably improved the system of agriculture, as it necessitated due stirring of the soil, fallowing of the ground, and extirpation of weeds.

Tull managed his farm on the novel principle that, perfect tillage and pulverization of the soil being premised, it would receive from the atmosphere sufficient nourishment for the production of crops quite equal to those resulting from the use of manure, with the ordinary tillage practised at that time, and for several years he was successful. His theory was, no doubt, to a certain extent correct, but a fatal error consisted in the belief, that the soil, however, fully cultivated, would of itself yield all the elements necessary to vegetation. And so long as it spontaneously furnished the necessary supplies of organic matter, his farm, which was of good quality, produced abundant crops. But in the end, as there was no replacement of the elements extracted, a total failure of produce, and the ruin of the ingenious but unfortunate theorist was the result.

In the present day, few will contend that manure is not indispensable, and even under the most skilful cultivation, excessive cropping cannot be carried on with impunity, as exemplified in the State of Virginia, where entire districts have been rendered irreclaimably barren, by this error.

All the usual crops, whether culmiferous or leguminous are more or less cultivated in this county, and we shall devote a brief space to their consideration.

Wheat, triticum, is only partially grown, oats, on the whole, being better adapted to the soil and climate. The principal wheat districts are Lecale, and the country about Comber and Moira. Winter and Spring wheat are both sown, but the latter very sparingly. Different varieties, which are changed from time to time, are in use, but practically they may be divided into two classes, red and white, which are further distinguished as thin or smooth-chaffed, and thick or wool-chaffed, in reference to their spikelets being smooth or hairy. A fair crop of wheat may be estimated at 30 bushels on the statute acre. Wheat was



introduced into the western parts of Europe from the east, and has been in immemorial use as the food of man. It was cultivated as early as the time of Abraham, and twenty thousand measures of this grain were paid by Solomon to Hiram, king of Tyre, for his services in the building of the temple. The harvest of this and other grain varies from August to the beginning of October. Wheat straw is used for making beehives, and the "grano marzolino" employed in the manufacture of the beautiful Leghorn hats, is a species of summer wheat.

The mildew, or rather mildew, affecting wheat, derives its name from the erroneous opinion that it was caused by honeydew falling from the air.

Rye, *secale cereale*, is now little cultivated, although it makes a nutritious bread. It malts readily but has been superseded by barley in this respect. The Hollands Geneva is distilled from a mixture of barley and rye, and the peculiar flavour is imparted by juniper berries. The straw is well adapted for making hats.

Barley, *hordeum*. Various species of this grain have been long cultivated, but usually either the two or six-rowed kinds, a common kind of the latter being beere or bigg.

The usual varieties in use are the Chevalier, the common English, the Victoria, and the Siberian or naked Beere. Both the two and four rowed, erroneously so-called, are sown in Down, but in less quantities than formerly, in consequence of the decrease of brewing and distilling.

The produce per acre varies from fifteen hundred weight to double that amount.

Oats, *avena*. The varieties of this grain are extremely numerous, but amongst those most commonly grown at present, in this county, are the late and early Angus, Poland, Lightfoot, Hopetoun, Blantyre, and Potato, as well as the black tartarean, or winter sown oat. The produce varies in weight from 35lbs. to 45lbs. per bushel, and thirty bushels per acre may be taken as a fair average, although more than thirty hundred weight have sometimes been yielded by an Irish acre.

Oats contain 7 per cent. of oily matter, and 17 per cent. of avenine, a protean compound similar to the gluten of wheat. making together 24 per cent. of fibrous producing material. and they are consequently extremely nutritious. They once constituted a great part of the food in this country, and in Scotland, but they are now less used than formerly, having been partly superseded by wheat and Indian corn.

Oats are in great demand as a food for horses. and they are also very largely employed in the distillation of whiskey, but not of beer. In old times they were used in the manufacture of mum. a kind of drink long exploded.

The ancient mode of drying oats, on layers of straw placed above a strong fire, has been superseded by the introduction of kilns, floored with tiles or iron plates, and the use of slates has, in a great measure, prevented the great waste accruing from the employment of straw as thatch, although many thatched houses still meet the eye.

The common bean, *Faba Vulgaris*. The principal species of the field beans are the horse bean, the tick bean, and the Heligoland. Some of the broad beans, as the Mazagan and long pod, are also cultivated in the fields. The following is the composition of the bean :—

Husk,	...	...	...	10.0 parts.
Leguminous albumen,	...	...	...	11.7 „
Starch,	...	...	...	50.1 „
Sugar and Gum,	...	...	...	8.2 „
Oil and Fat,	...	...	...	0.0 „
Water,	...	...	...	15.6 „
Salts and Loss,	...	...	...	4.4 „
				<hr/>
				100.0

It will be thus seen that the bean contains a large quantity of protean matter, and consequently replenishes the waste of muscular substance. It is excellent as a food for horses, and the straw is little inferior to hay.

The bean, doubtless, is of Asiatic origin, as it was presented with other food to David, when fleeing from the face of Absalom.

The bean is only partially cultivated in Down, one objection to its use, being the difficulty of harvesting it in moist seasons. It thrives best on a clay soil.

The pea *Pisum* has been cultivated in England, for many centuries, although at an early period, it was not even grown as a garden vegetable. The table of Queen Elizabeth was supplied with peas from Holland, "fit dainties for ladies as they come so far and cost so dear," as satirically remarked by Fuller. The following entry appears in the Privy Purse account, of Henry VIII.: "Paied for bringing peascods to the King's grace, IIIIs. & VIIId," a sum about equivalent to £1 11s. of our money.

The composition of the pea is as follows:—In 25 bushels, or 1600 lbs. of peas there are of

Husk,	...	...	...	130 parts.
Starch and Gum,	...	...	...	800 „
Gluten,	...	...	...	380 „
Oil or Fat,	...	...	...	34 „
Saline matter,	...	...	...	48 „
And other matters,	...	...	...	208 „
				<hr/>
				1600

In point of nutrition, therefore, the pea and bean are nearly on a par, and the straw is good for fodder. Peas may be classed as grey, or field and garden peas, of which there are many varieties. The produce varies from twenty to sixty bushels in the acre, but it is very little cultivated in Down.

Buck wheat or brank, *polygonum fagopyrum* (a plant of the dock tribe), is grown for the farina of the seeds, but very partially, if at all, in this county, although it is deserving of more attention. It bears white flowers tinged with red. Buck wheat is easily cultivated, and very readily produced in the poorest soils. The season for sowing is from the middle of May, to the end of

June ; a bushel and a half of seed sufficing for an acre. The produce may be taken at twenty-five to thirty bushels, the acre, as it must be reaped whilst a great part of its seeds are still unripe. It may be given to horses, poultry, and hogs. It may likewise be ground into a white and wholesome flour, which is, however, deficient in gluten ; and it can also be distilled, but it is principally sown for ploughing down in a green state as manure. It was first introduced into Western Europe from Africa, by the Saracens. Buck wheat has the singular property of intoxicating swine, when given to them in large quantities. It is an excellent food for milch cows, producing rich milk, well-flavoured butter, and cheese in abundance.

Flax requires a highly cultivated soil, and formerly it was usually sown after potatoes, but it will succeed on any land of sufficient depth, if suitably prepared. Flax in this county is usually sown for the purpose of spinning, and for this object it should be pulled as soon as the bolls have attained their full size. It requires very careful weeding, and the watering, and subsequent exposure on the grass demand the utmost skill and care. The latter process requires to be continued for ten or twelve days.

The descriptions of seed usually sown here are Dutch, Riga, American, and home-saved. Where the object is to save the seed, the bolls must be allowed to get fully ripe. The yield ranges from twelve to twenty bushels ; but the quantity saved in this county is only limited. The return made by the flax crop is very precarious, both on account of the uncertain produce, and the variations in price.

It is to the purpose to state here, on the competent authority of the late Mr. John Andrews, of Comber, that he had known the produce to reach the large amount of fifty-four stones, and that he had himself grown forty-eight, and that, deducting accurately all expenses, he had on one or two occasions, cleared above £27 an acre, although in other years the cost was barely reimbursed. Formerly flax was sown in very limited quantities, but in recent years the hope of obtaining the higher prices occasionally realized,

and other causes, led to its extensive cultivation on land, not naturally adapted or suitably prepared for its growth, a species of agricultural gambling which deteriorated the soil, and frequently ended in serious loss, which has beneficially checked the injurious practice. But as a reasonable average profit, of from £8 to £12 per acre may be realized from flax, if properly cultivated, and only sown in fair rotation with other crops, there can be no valid objection to its culture, nor any reason to believe that, with proper management, it cannot be grown for any length of time. It has been urged, indeed, that it leaves nothing to be returned to the land, but this objection may be obviated by the skilful application of suitable manures, and by only sewing it in quantities suitable to the size of the farm.

Various plans for preparing flax have been tried and abandoned, including the processes of Lee and Shenckes. Machines have also been invented by Marsden, of Leeds, and Rowan, of Belfast, which have effected great improvements. The latter is much used in the counties of Antrim and Down. Messrs. Lawson and Sons, in 1853, exhibited a useful machine, and Messrs. Combe and Company, of the Falls Foundry, have produced others of greatly improved construction, which afford more yield, and cause less waste of material.

Hand-scutching, though still carried on, is gradually giving way before the economic system of milling, which has been greatly extended.

Hemp, a plant of the nettle tribe, has been used for an unknown period, in the manufacture of canvas, coarse cloth, and cordage. It is not an object of culture here, as it requires an amount of manure, time, and labour, scarcely compatible with the routine of a farm.

The Potato is a native of America, introduced, according to general belief, into Ireland, by the unfortunate Sir Walter Raleigh. But it probably came to us, through Portugal and Spain, at a prior date, as it appears to have been in use in the Ards, as early as 1606. The varieties are very numerous, new kinds coming

into cultivation, from time to time, but they are all reducible to the early and late species, the former as usually grown here at present, including the kidney, fortyfold, and cruffle, and the latter the white-rock, the red-apple, and the skerry-blue. This favourite food will, of itself, sustain life in full vigour. In this county the potato is cultivated both by the spade and the plough, the latter more extensively. The lazy bed or ridge system being preferably adopted in rough land, damp soils, and very hilly grounds, although the yield, whilst of superior quality, is inferior in quantity, to that produced by the plough. Early planting, since the occurrence of the potato blight, is the safest, as it allows the crop to attain its growth before the supervention of the disease. This vegetable yields a large amount of ardent spirits, great quantities of it being sold in France, for making Cognac brandy. The accidents and diseases of the potato are not very numerous. The one best known is the curl, so named from the curling of the leaves to which it gives rise. The cause of the curl is unknown. The produce of potatoes on old lea is from two to three hundred bushels, but with good soil and culture, often much more, even up to 800 bushels, but the average crop is about nine tons per acre.

The terrible potato disease commenced in 1845, and has continued with more or less intensity, up to the present time, and amidst innumerable speculations and theories, the cause is still involved in impenetrable mystery, for although the potato is infested by a fungus (*peronostera infestans*), it is not determined, whether it stands in the position of cause or effect, with reference to the disease.

The following is the composition of the potato, as determined by the analysis of Professor Johnston :—

	In the natural state.		In the dry state.	
Water,	...	75.52	...	—
Starch,	...	15.72	...	64.0
Dextrine,	...	0.55	...	—
Sugar,	...	3.30	...	15.0



	In the natural state.		In the dry state.
Albumen, Casein, Gluten,	1.41	...	9.0
Fat or Oil, ...	0.24	...	1.0
Fibre, ...	3.26	...	11.0
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	100.00		100.0

Comparing the nutritive quality of wheat and potatoes, we find that the proportion of starch in wheat is 55 per cent., and of gluten 12 per cent., whilst in the potato there is about 18 of starch, and not quite 3 per cent. of gluten. Yet, from the great productiveness of the potato, an acre of that crop contains three and a half times as much starch and sugar, and two and one third times as much gluten, as an acre of wheat.

The Turnip was long grown in the gardens, before it was made an object of field culture, which was much promoted, early in the eighteenth century, under the auspices of the Marquis of Townsend, who, hence received the sobriquet of Turnip Townsend. Under the appellation of common turnip are comprised the round or globe, the depressed or Norfolk, and the fusiform or Tartarian turnip.

The varieties most cultivated are the Swedish, Aberdeen, and white globe. The purple topped Swede and Aberdeen yellow are the most in request for feeding, and the early white and golden ball, for the garden. Of each species there are numerous improved varieties.

Within half a century the field growth of turnips was almost unknown here, but they are now cultivated in almost every part of the county, and form the chief element in the stalling of cattle.

Turnips produce a large amount of feeding material and manure, and their increased cultivation marks a great advance in the agriculture of the county.

The yield is, on the average, large, and as much as fifty or sixty tons, and even more, are sometimes produced on an Irish acre.

According to the analysis of Stephens, the turnip consists of the following ingredients :—

Woody Fibre,	...	...	.900
Starch, Gum, and Sugar,	...	...	4.000
Gluten,	...	...	.670
Fat or Oil,	...	...	.130
Saline matter,	...	...	.300
Water,	...	...	39.000
			<hr/>
			45.000 lbs.

Cocoa nut cake has been recently introduced, and promises to be a useful addition to our feeding stuffs, as it contains nearly as much nutritive matter as oil, linseed, or cotton cake.

Rape or Cole is hardy, and easily cultivated. It may be sowed later than the turnip, and on any soil. It is grown to considerable extent in the county, as it affords a supply of green food at a season when other aliment is scarce.

Kohl Rabi or turnip stemmed cabbage, originally brought from Lapland, was introduced into Britain in 1837. It is considered superior to the Swedish turnip, and all cattle are fond of it.

The crop is about twenty to twenty-six tons per acre, and it does not, like turnip, give a disagreeable flavour to milk and butter, but it is little cultivated here.

The Cabbage is derived from a little marine plant. The kinds cultivated are very numerous, but the large field cabbage is the best for agricultural purposes. The crop should be planted about the middle of May. It is more nutritious than the turnip. The average produce is about thirty-six tons per acre, but over sixty have occasionally been raised.

Drumhead cabbages of the enormous weight of seventy pounds have been produced, and specimens, of thirty or forty pounds weight are not very uncommon. Professor Johnston states that the cauliflower, which is one of the cabbages, when dried, con-

tains 64 per cent. of nutritive matter, a quantity exceeding that of any other cultivated vegetable. Its composition is as follows :

Nitrogenous or flesh forming ingredients,	...	1.75
Non-nitrogenous or heat giving matters,	...	4.05
Mineral matters, ...	... ..	0.80
Water, ...	... ..	93.40
		<hr/>
		100.00

The Tare is a very valuable leguminous forage plant. There are numerous varieties, including the wood vetch and tufted vetch, but the winter and spring tare are those in general cultivation. These are not, however, distinct species, but merely varieties produced by sowing at different seasons. Winter tares should be sown in October and November, and the spring tares from March to June.

The tare is excellent feeding for horses and swine. It causes milch cows to give more butter, than any other kind of food, and it is not at all so extensively cultivated in this county as it deserves.

The Parsnip is indigenous in England. There are three species, viz.: the Field, Wild, and Cow parsnip. It produces fair crops, averaging about twenty tons to the acre, and it is one of the best of foods for milch cattle. It takes no injury, if left in the ground during the winter, yet valuable as it is, it is scarcely made an object of field culture in this county.

Its chemical composition comprises:—7.30 parts of nitrogenized materials, 9.65 parts of non-nitrogenized substances, both adapted for the formation of flesh, and support of respiration, with 1.00 part of ashes and 82.05 proportions of water.

The parsnip contains more starch, but less sugar than the carrot. It should be sown in March, and sound fresh seed is indispensable.

Beet.—The white and common beet are also more nutritious than the turnip. The field beet, mangel wurzel, or root of scar-

city, is of somewhat recent introduction, as an object of agriculture, and five species are in cultivation, viz: the orange, the long, the orange globe, and the long, and globe reds, the yellow, and the silesian. As a food for milch cows both the leaves and bulb of beet are excellent, producing much increase of milk, without imparting to it, or to the butter, any disagreeable flavour. The proper sowing season is about the middle of May. This root is largely cultivated on the continent for distillation, and the manufacture of sugar. Some years ago, it was grown for the latter purpose, in this county, to some extent, and a sugar factory was established near Hillsborough, by the late Mr. Hercules Bradshaw, but its operations were put a stop to by prohibitory excise laws.

It is important to remark, that small bulbs, of this and other crops, yield a sensibly greater proportion of sugar than large ones.

The following is Professor Johnstone's analysis of the long red beet, and that of the other species is not materially different:

Water	...	...	...	85.18
Gum	...	...	...	0.67
Sugar	...	...	...	9.79
Casein	...	...	...	0.39
Albumen	...	...	...	0.09
Fibre, pectin, and pectic acid			...	3.08

The Jerusalem artichoke, the French *Poire de terre*, is scarcely made an object of field culture in this county. It is, however, very hardy, and readily grows on poor soils. Its nutritive power is about three and a half times greater than that of hay. The artichoke is inferior to the potatoe as regards nutrition, but it is very productive, as much as five hundred bushels having been raised on an acre, without manure.

The esculent carrot is cultivated, but not extensively. Three to four hundred bushels on the acre are a good return, although

a considerably larger produce is sometimes obtained, even so high as 900 bushels. Carrots are excellent feeding, and will keep a horse, at slow work, in good condition, without the addition of oats.

The species usually sown are the red Altringham, the Surrey, and the white and yellow Belgian.

Carrots contain ten heat producing, fifteen flesh and bone producing, and 0.4 fat-producing, elements in their composition.

The following analysis will exhibit, at one view, the comparative quantities of nutritive matter, contained in the various kinds of crops more or less cultivated in the county. The first column shews the heat producing ingredients, starch, sugar, and gum; the second the flesh and bone producing elements, and the third the fat producing materials :—

Wheat	35	15	3
Barley	60	14	2
Oats	60	16	4
Rye	60	13	3
Indian Corn	70	12	7
Rice	75	17	0.7
Beans	40	26	.3
Peas	50	24	2.1
Potatoes	18	2	0.3
Turnips	9	1.5	0.3
Carrots	10	15	0.4
Mangold Wurzel	11	2	—

The total value of the crops raised in the county, in one year, (1868) was £647,985.

Various plants, such as lichen, madder, weld, and oleander, used for the production of dye-stuffs, are not cultivated here. Lichen omphaloidis, grows spontaneously, and produces corcar, a dull crimson domestic dye.

Tobacco, although not altogether deserving of the exaggerated praise of Captain Bobadil, “I do hold it, and will affirm it, before

*The following Table will shew the extent of Land in the County of Down under the different species of Crop, for seven years, ending in 1869.*

	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley, Bere, and Rye.	Beans and Peas.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Other Green Crops.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.	Total extent under crops.	Fallow or uncropped arable land.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1864,	21,061	119,754	1,352	1,273	55,164	17,232	3,649	59,186	54,659	333,330	451
1865,	20,162	122,815	1,011	1,292	58,118	16,824	4,322	48,999	62,623	336,166	1,109
1866,	23,559	117,558	1,151	967	58,668	15,996	3,441	51,762	60,077	334,179	619
1867,	22,613	118,691	936	1,056	56,429	17,693	3,293	48,044	61,836	339,591	218
1868,	26,869	120,384	991	446	57,470	16,562	3,581	36,887	61,832	325,022	324
1869,	31,677	120,930	1,013	310	58,532	15,230	3,695	37,550	59,548	328,485	519



any prince in Europe, to be the most sovereign and precious weed that ever the earth tendered to the use of man," might be cultivated very profitably in various soils in this County, and it was once grown to a small extent, until its culture was prohibited by Act of Parliament.

GRASSES.—The grasses, principally sown, are rye-grass, white grass, and more recently the Italian variety.

In the culture of grasses the mixture of seeds should be various, according to the object in view, whether as merely forming a link in the rotation of crops, or permanently laying down the ground for pasture or meadow, or for lawns and ornamental grounds. The description of seed should also have reference to the nature of the soil, as principally consisting of bog, clay, sand, or loam. The idea that grass seeds exhausts the ground is altogether erroneous.

In forming meadows the drainage should be well attended to.

The hay harvest in Down is from the middle of June, to the middle of September, the forced grasses being cut early, and the natural meadow grasses later. A very common error is allowing the crop to be too ripe before cutting. Another mistake from which serious loss arises, is permitting the hay to remain too long in the meadow, before removal to the hay stack, or the large sheds now in use, a modern but great improvement. The amount of injury thus done has been forcibly pointed out in the *News-Letter*, in 1873, and 1874, by Mr. David Carmichael, of Millisle.

There are various agricultural societies, which carry on the improvements originating in the old ploughing societies. These include the Royal North Eastern Agricultural Association, and the agricultural societies of Hillsborough, Killyleagh, and the Downpatrick and Newry Unions, with perhaps a few others.

There is no doubt that the premiums, publicity, and interchange of ideas, at these exhibitions, have tended to the introduction of a better kind of stock, and an improvement in the system of agriculture. Other societies having similar objects in view, are the Flax Extension Society, and the Chemico Agricultural Society

of Ulster, many members of which are resident in the County of Down, although their meetings are held in Belfast. The objects of the latter society have been materially promoted by the untiring attention of their Professor, Doctor Hodges, whose ability as a chemist, is generally known, and whose analysis of soils, manures, and waters used for domestic purposes, have diffused much valuable practical information.

As a general rule, the crops are good, and of sure growth, throughout the County, in the majority of years. The year 1800 was, however, a memorable exception. The potatoes failed, and wheat and oats did not yield more than half the usual produce. Consequently the price of provisions rapidly rose, until great distress was the result. Flour sold at 65s. to 75s., and oatmeal at 50s. to 55s., per cwt., whilst potatoes were so high as 15d., per stone. At this time Indian meal was first introduced, and it has since become a valuable addition to our supplies of food.

In 1816 also, long remembered as the wet summer, the potato crop became unfit for food, and the oats yielded little but chaff. Owing to the great scarcity and distress thus occasioned, a pestilential and very fatal fever broke out in the following year.

There is nothing connected with farming in which greater advance has been made, within the present century, than in the manufacture of agricultural appliances, the old implements having been greatly improved, and many new ones added, comprising iron ploughs, winnowing machines, waggons, turnip-sowing machines, turnip slicers, waggons, sparrels or corn carts, cheese presses, churns, load barrows, rolling and threshing machines, and grubbers, together with sowing, winnowing, reaping, raking, chaff cutting, hay pressing, and other implements. Some of them have been of infinite service in securing the crops during the existing scarcity of agricultural labourers. Great improvement has also taken place, of late years, in the construction and machinery of mills, whether wrought by steam, wind, or water power ; for wind mills are still to be seen, in particular districts, especially in the Ards, where the streams are not numerous. In the vicinity of

Newtownards, the Quern or Bro, usually called lamhbro, or hand-mill, was only superseded by the water mill in the seventeenth century. In old leases the tenants were bound to grind their oats at a particular mill, and to pay more than one sixteenth of the produce, for grinding and winnowing, but this provision has long become obsolete.

The most extensive flour mills in the county are at Newry, Millisle, Comber, and Ballydugan, near Downpatrick.

Flax mills, some of them wrought by steam, are now very numerous. The first of these structures was erected by Mr. Maxwell, in 1757.\* The breaking and scotching of flax, operations now usually performed in the mills, were, until a comparatively recent period executed by hand. For the breaking of the flax, the hand-krig, a sort of toothed mallet was formerly used, and a machine consisting of a heavy millstone, moving in a circle on a long wooden bar, was occasionally substituted. Some of these primitive implements are still to be seen.

CATTLE.—At an early date, the chief wealth consisted in pasturage, and cattle, which were then abundant. In the year 1315, when the chieftains of the north country had assisted Edward Bruce, in devastating the English possessions, the wife of William de Braosa in vain attempted to mollify King John, by presenting to his Queen, four hundred cows, all of a red colour, and the produce of her own domains.†

Horned cattle are subject to a variety of diseases both of a sporadic and epidemic nature, but never spreading in this county, so far, to any very formidable extent. They are also liable to be poisoned by certain plants as the yew, and the water-dropwort (*oenanthe crocata*).

Considerable advances have been made, within the last half century, in the breeding of cattle, but the average stock of the county is still open to much further improvement. The mixed

\* Dubourdieu's Survey, p. 25.

† Gordon's History of Ireland.

breeds are far in excess of any other description of cattle, in point of numbers. They are produced generally by indiscriminate crossing of various kinds as of the old Irish cow and half breeds of different descriptions, with the Short-horn, Ayrshire, polled Angus, and other varieties; crosses with the first-mentioned species, especially in the vicinity of Newtownards and Downpatrick, being in particular request for exportation. At the same time, all the following kinds are represented in the County, in greater or lesser number, viz., the Devonshire, Hereford, Ayrshire, Short-horn or Dutch, polled Angus, Long-horned or Lancashire, Craven, West Highland or Angushire, and Alderney.

The term middle horns include the Devons, Hereford, Sussex, Welsh, West Highlanders, Ayrshire, and native breeds.

As a dairy cow, the Ayrshire is not surpassed by any other, and one, of the best description, will yield from six to eight gallons of milk in the day, and produce two hundred and fifty pounds of butter annually. This description of stock is well suited to our climate, and by no means deficient in fattening properties.

The West Highlander or Kyloe, is of small size, but handsome, hardy, and highly prized, for the excellence of its beef, which is not excelled in the London markets. Specimens may be seen in a few of the principal demesnes in this county, but they are not common.

The Kerry, a small and very hardy breed, is well adopted for hilly pastures, and for the poor, who have little feeding, as being found, by accurate experiments, to yield more milk and butter, of a superior quality, than any other description of cattle, in proportion to the weight of food consumed. They are quiet when let alone, but if irritated, no fence can confine them. Of late years the breed has been much improved by crossing, and a good many have been brought into the county from their native Kerry.

The small Welsh cattle, or Pembroke breed, resembles the Kerry, but I am not aware that any of them are to be found here.

The Alderney cows are not well adapted for fattening, but their milk is unsurpassed for richness. They are, therefore, much valued, and a steady importation takes place from their native island.

The long-horned Lancashire, or Craven breed, was formerly the most generally diffused of the larger races of cattle. In Ireland this variety (not, perhaps, quite the same as the English) was spread over a wide tract of country, but they are now scarce, although, at one time, herds of excellent quality might be seen in various places, as at Waringstown, Montalto, Waringsfield, Grace Hill, Castlewellan, Bangor Castle, Orangefield, Seaforde, and some other places.

The most valuable qualities of this breed, as improved by Cayley and Bakewell, were hardiness, richness of milk, and a good turn-out at the scale. Yet, with all, they could not maintain their ground against the shorthorns, though the thickness of their hide adapted them well to our moist climate. They were of all colours. The Shorthorn, Teeswater, or Durham breed.—High prices, ranging from sixty to one hundred guineas, have been paid by Lord Bangor, and others, for cows of this description, which as improved by Bakewell, and the Collings, of Darlington, are (mongrels excepted) the most generally diffused here, being much prized for their size, and for their milking, and fattening qualities, the latter especially, as they come to early maturity. When at pail, they yield from six to sixteen quarts of milk, in the day, but from their great bulk they are not well adapted to the average of farms, although thriving well, in the larger and sheltered grounds of the gentry. The original country of this breed is believed to be Holland or Holstein.

Devons or Middle horns, are much valued for their symmetry, rich red colour, docility, the excellent quality of their cream, and their aptitude to fatten, the beef fetching the highest price in the market. They are not numerous in the county, but some good specimens are to be met with here and there.

The Herefordshire breed, usually distinguished by their white



faces, and throats, are somewhat larger than the Devons, but they are seldom seen here.

The Galloway or polled Angus varieties are pretty common. They give a moderate quantity of rich milk, and they are, at the same time, hardy and docile, in many respects resembling the Forfar breed.

The Suffolk dun, termed home bred, in the market, is also a polled breed, resembling the Galloway, and is usually of a mouse-dun colour, but by no means exclusively so. They are hardy, and good milkers, but rarely seen here.

The quantity of butter made in the County of Down is very large, and the produce of a single cow may be estimated at about ninety pounds on the average, varying from sixty to one hundred and twenty pounds per annum.

Some is sold in towns for local consumption, in a fresh state, but the greater portion in the several markets, and it is chiefly exported from Belfast and Newry.

The soil is well adapted for the production of rich and sweet butter, but much more attention is required in its preparation, if we do not wish to be superseded, in the English markets, by imports from the continent, and the admixture of too great a proportion of salt is an error especially to be avoided.

No superior cheese is brought to market from Down, nor is it made in any large quantity. The most common is "skim milk cheese," the worst specimen of which resembles "the Thump," so graphically described in Bloomfield's Farmer Boy :

If drought o'ertakes it faster than the knife,  
Most fair it bids for stubborn length of life,  
And like the oaken shelf whereon 't is laid,  
Mocks the weak efforts of the bending blade,  
Or in the hog-trough rests in perfect spite,  
Too big to swallow, and too hard to bite.

In some districts soiling or house feeding, in Summer, is much practised, and it has the advantage of causing a more even consumption of every description of herbage, and of protecting the



cattle from the heat and the irritation of insects. This mode of feeding also adds considerably to the dung heap, a matter of no slight importance to the farmer.

The quantity of land under grazing in Down is relatively small, although within a few years, from the high price of cattle, and the great advance in agricultural wages, it has been gradually increasing.

The breeding of cattle, in this county, is mainly carried on for exportation and for keeping up the necessary stock. The majority of the calves dropped are reared, and the remainder are consumed as an article of food, under the name of slink or small veal, which is much in request by the lower classes, except near large towns like Belfast and Newry, where they are vealed or fattened for the market. The calves are generally reared by pail, first on new, and afterwards on skim milk, a plan very inferior, although cheaper, than the natural way, of allowing the calf to suck the mother. Early dropped calves have the best chance of surviving, and are very superior to those coming later. To produce good stock, the calves should have at first as much milk as they can take, beginning with a gallon, and increasing the quantity to two or three gallons in the day.

Stall-feeding is not practised to much extent, except in some of the larger establishments in the county, where many valuable animals are fattened. Consequently the butchers in extensive trade, resort for supplies both of beef and mutton, to some of the counties further south, or to the Dublin and Glasgow markets. The usual food employed in the stalls is hay, turnips, oats in sheaf, with potatoes, oil cake, and other artificial foods. In an economical point of view, the great object is by its excellence and variety, to induce the largest consumption of food, and a beast that does not acquire a certain increase of weight in a given time, should be cast out of the stall. The weight of a living animal may be approximately ascertained by measuring the length from the foremost upper corner of

the shoulder-blade in a straight line to the highest point of the rump, and then measuring the girth or circumference immediately behind the fore-legs, and multiplying the square of the girth by the length, and the product by 238, which will give the weight of the quarters in stones of 14lbs. each. The offal, comprising the head, feet, tallow, hide and horns, are estimated as forming one-fifth of the value, and in this country the price is often fixed at a certain rate, sinking the offal, which implies that it is reckoned on the carcass alone, and of course it is greater than if the animal were sold without including in it the value of the offal.

Another rough method of ascertaining the weight of fat cattle is by weighing the animal alive, and taking one half of the weight thus ascertained, as about equal to the weight of the hindquarters.

The domestic ox has existed as such, beyond all records, and the parent stock from which he may have been derived, is mere matter of conjecture. The remains of a race of oxen, believed to be peculiar to Ireland, are found in the bogs, distinguished by "the convexity of the upper part of the forehead, its great proportional length, and the shortness and downward direction of the horns."\*

The hog derives its origin from the wild boar, and in no stock has greater improvement taken place within recent years. They are fattened in large numbers for domestic use, contributing materially to the provision against rent day. The usual food is potatoes, or turnips, steamed, but the animal will eat up anything. The breeds of the domestic hog are very numerous, including the Native, the Chinese, the Suffolk, the Hampshire, the Berkshire, the Essex, and the Lincolnshire, with some others. But the animal we usually see is the result of endless crossing, by which the old, long-eared, long-backed, long-legged, tottering

\* Paper by Dr. Ball on the Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, January 1839.

animal, has been almost entirely superseded by improved varieties, nearly all of which are of mixed breeds. The Chinese pig is distinguished by its peculiar aptitude to fatten, the smallness of its bones, and shortness of limb.

The Berkshire, deducing its origin from the eastern hog and native swine, and combining size with aptitude to acquire flesh, is the most generally diffused of all the improved kinds. Many excellent boars of various breeds have been imported, and have tended much to the improvement of the stock. Pork was in great favour with the Romans, one of their greatest delicacies being the *porcus Trojanus*, which consisted of whole hog stuffed with thrushes, larks, becaficoes nightingales, and oysters, basted with wine and gravies. The barbecued hog was whipped to death in order to preserve the finest juices, but the cookery of the present day, though less elaborate and cruel, is greatly to be preferred. Hogs, in the olden time, constituted a considerable portion of the agricultural wealth. In Wales, by the laws of Howel, "the price of a pig, from the time it is farrowed, until it grows to burrow, was one penny; when it ceases suckling at the end of three months, two pence; and when it went to the woods, and was considered a swine, its value was four-pence. From the feast of St. John until the 1st of January, its value was twenty-four pence, and from that time forward, its price rose to thirty pence, the same as that of its mother. The value of a boar was equal to three sows.\*"

THE SHEEP.—It is uncertain from which of the wild races the domestic sheep deduces its origin, whether from the Musmon of the Mediterranean, the Argali, the wild sheep of Asia, the bearded sheep of Africa, or the mountain sheep of North America, but the different breeds in Great Britain and Ireland, are now very numerous. The long-woolled sheep are preferred to the short-woolled species at the present day. Some of the improved

\* Copland's Agriculture, vol. i. p. 416.

varieties owe their superiority to crossing with the Merino breed, introduced from Spain by George III.

The principal varieties met with here are the Shrop, and South Down, the Leicester, the Cheviot, and the black faced, or mountain breed, familiarly called "Brockies." A sheep frequently seen in Down is of a mongrel description, the result of crossing between the Leicester and the old Irish breed. The principal native sheep remaining are the small mountain kinds, which are to be purchased in the fairs of Castletwellan, Rathfriland and Dundrum.

The old Irish lowland sheep are large, flat-sided, coarse-headed creatures, weighing from eight to fourteen pounds the quarter. The South Down, natives of Sussex, are, as improved by Mr. Ellman, a fine woolled, hornless breed, hardy, and good fatteners, and their flesh is fine-grained, and well flavoured.

The Dishley breed, or Leicester, as improved by Mr. Bakewell, is distinguished for early maturity, and small bone. These sheep are now usually slaughtered at two years of age, whilst the old variety scarcely made good mutton at three years. Leicestershire sheep require care, and a good climate and pasture. The sheep farming of this county is very limited, small stocks only, varying in number from two or three to a score, being kept by the majority of farmers, but large flocks of the most famous breeds may be seen at Hillsborough Park, Castleward, Mountstewart, at Glenmore, on the immediate borders of the county, and some other places. Specimens not readily to be surpassed, are annually exhibited at the Shows of the North East Agricultural Association.

Good lambs are sold to the butcher in the season, at a high rate, ranging from one to two pounds, and wool, at varying, but generally remunerative prices. On the whole, sheep-farming is profitable, and deserving of more general attention than it has yet received.

The Goat is found in all parts of the county, but nowhere kept in flocks. Of late years some have been exported to Scot-

land. Its milk is in demand for the invalid, as being superior to that of the cow, but this is a mere prejudice.

The Horse, as we learn from Holy Writ, has been domesticated for a very long period, although still found running wild in immense troops, in America, Asia, and Africa, from whence, no doubt, the animal has reached these kingdoms. In the book of Job,\* the courage, strength, and fleetness of the horse are eulogised in the glowing language of eastern literature. The horse is subject to a variety of diseases, which there is not space to refer to here, and his anatomy is minutely described by Mr. Rymer Jones.† The different varieties of the animal, as known here, may be enumerated as the race-horse, the hunter, the hackney or saddle horse, the agricultural or cart horse, the Galloway, the cob, the coach-horse, and the pony. Down does not stand pre-eminent as a horse-breeding county, although many good racers have appeared on its courses, especially those reared by the late Mr. Maxwell of Finnebrogue, Mr. Martin of Inch, Mr. Joyce of Thornhill, and Mr. Watson of Brookhill, a resident on the immediate confines of the county; nor have their triumphs been confined to their own county, the blue riband of the turf having been carried off by Harkaway, a well-remembered Irish horse. Dubourdieu says some of the best racers of the day were reared in the County of Down.

The race-horse, or thorough-bred horse, as we see him now, is of a cultivated breed, originally springing from the Arabian variety, many of the best racers of the present day having their pedigree strictly traceable to the Godolphin Arabian, and the Flying Childers, a descendant of the Darley Arabian, which, though one of the best, was not the first imported, having been preceded by Markham, White Turk, the Morocco barb, and others, believed to have been amongst the fleetest horses on record.

\* Chapter xxxiv.

† Cyclopædia of Anatomy.



*The following Table shews the relative numbers of the most important stock in the County of Down in the six years prior to 1870.*

	Horses and Mules.	Asses.	Milch Cows.	Total Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Goats.	Poultry.
1864,	34,485	1,167	54,544	121,151	53,036	40,475	8,109	482,778
1865,	33,845	981	54,042	124,073	52,247	49,776	8,103	486,388
1866,	33,343	1,123	56,967	135,593	62,117	59,296	8,434	481,590
1867,	32,370	987	57,771	130,583	73,119	40,904	8,820	339,155
1868,	32,093	978	58,277	132,677	76,996	27,596	10,012	479,038
1869,	31,661	951	56,368	131,267	67,918	32,181	9,958	469,929

The hunter is a combination of the thorough and half-bred horse, having more strength and bone than the former, but somewhat less speed. Hunters are not very numerous in the county, though some of excellent quality have been produced, and others imported. The present hunter is something more highly bred and lighter of form than in times gone by, and the cavalry horse is something akin to the hunter. Some good specimens are reared here.

The saddle horse or hackney is only a variety of the hunter, passing through all gradations of quality, but much inferior in breeding and fleetness. The present hackney is not at all equal to those of former times, when travelling was usually performed on horseback, and when a good animal of this kind could readily make a journey of from forty to seventy miles in a day. Few really good coach horses are reared in this county. A variety of this description of animal was formerly much sought after for the stage coach, but the demand has been almost entirely superseded by the general establishment of railways.

The cart horse of the present day is much superior, both in size and shape, to those in use even half a century ago. The obvious improvement in this respect is owing to judicious crossing



between the high-bred horse, the old English black horse, the Clydesdale horse, the Cleveland bay, and Suffolk punch. Many good animals of these breeds have, within recent years, been imported into the county, and the result, with the more careful selection of the dams, is visible in the altered and improved qualities of the produce.

On the whole, the horses of the County Down cannot be said to stand very high, although many excellent animals may be seen in our principal horse fairs at Banbridge, Saintfield, Lisburn, and Belfast. In the more common descriptions in the hands of the farming classes generally, there is much room for the improvement, which is gradually taking place.

We may here offer the opinion, that the practice of clipping horses is to be deprecated. After its introduction, about half a century ago, it was so strongly opposed by Laurence, that it was abandoned for a time, although, no doubt, it temporarily improved the appearance. But at any rate, it has been reintroduced more for the benefit of the groom, than for the real advantage of the animal.

By a charter passed in 1685, by James II., Vere Essex, Earl of Ardglass, Hugh Earl of Mount Alexander, Lewis Viscount Dunganon, and other persons, were made a body politic and corporate, by the style and title of the Governor and Freemen of the Corporation of Horse Breeders, in the County of Down, liberty being granted them, to purchase lands to the value of two hundred pounds a year, to elect a treasurer and registrar, and such other officers as they should think proper, and authority, that at the meetings for horse races, a fair should continue for six days, the customs of which were made payable to the Corporation, with power during the continuation of the races, to hold a Court of Piepoudre. The governor and freemen wore a gold medal, having on one side the device of a mare and sucking foal, with the motto, "In equis patrum virtus," and on the reverse, two running horses at full stretch, with the motto, "Metam avide petunt."

This measure contributed, no doubt, to the improvement of the breed of horses ; but the fairs referred to have long been discontinued, and the days of running at the Maze, which is now the only course frequented in the county, have been reduced to three at the July, and to one at the October meeting.

The ass, although not altogether unknown, is not much used in this county, and, consequently, hybrids or mules proper, and gennets or hinnies, are rare. As we see the animal here, he is much inferior in size to those of warmer countries, and of ancient times, when the judges of the land, travelling in state, rode on white asses. The mule is more patient and enduring in labour, more sure-footed, and more easily kept than the horse, but he is much inferior in size to the stately animals, reared in countries further south, which are described in *Gil Blas* as drawing the carriages of the nobility.

Formerly agricultural produce was sold by various weights and measures, as meal, by the score of twenty pounds, or hundred weight, of one hundred and twenty pounds, whilst a hundred of beef and pork, or potatoes, contained 112lbs. ; but the latter was generally purchased by the bushel, which was equal to four stones. A hundred weight of beef or pork was 120 lbs., and in small quantities, it was disposed of by the single pound of 16 oz. Tallow was sold by the stone of 16 lbs., or cwt. of 120 lbs.\*

Oats were frequently measured by the Winchester bushel of 32 quarts, but taxed at the mill by the peck, *i. e.*, 16 quarts or half a Winchester bushel. Oats were the only grain sold by measure, until a recent date, although prior to the present century, grain of every description was thus disposed of. Flax at one time was sold by the stone of 14, 16, 20, or 24lbs. in different districts.

These variations were rendered illegal by the Weights and Measures Act, 23 and 24 Vic., c. 76, and by an amending act, 25 and 26 Vic., c. 114, all produce, after 1862, was legally disposed of by fixed imperial weights only, provision being made, by official

\* Dubourdieu, p. 250, 1802.

inspection, to guard against fraud either in the weighing, or in the articles brought to market, punishments being inflicted for any excess or deficiency in the weights.

In the present year (January 1874) animal food of every description is very dear, the following being the prices in the Belfast market, whilst those in the County of Down are in a slight degree lower:—Beef, 5d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. ; mutton, 7d. to 1s. ; veal, 7d. to 1s. ; bacon, 9d. to 10d. ; ham 8d. to 1s. 1d. ; lamb, 10s to 12s. per quarter ; and pork, 49s. to 56s. per cwt.

At a later season lamb is sold by the lb., at the price of mutton. What a contrast since the days of Leland, who, in his Itinerary, (1536) describes the town of Wakefield as “well served of flesh and fish, all vitaille being so very gode chape there, that a right honest man shall fare well for two pens a meale,”\* or even since the beginning of the eighteenth century, when a certain Peter Blong supplied a lady’s table, in Kilkenny, at the following prices:—21 lb of beef, 3s. 6d. ; a quarter of “lawm,” 1s. 7½. ; a koof’s head, 10d. ; 7 lb. of beef, 10½d. ; 3 lbs. of beef, 6d. ; and a breast of “wail,” 1s. 3d., as appears from the account, which he furnished at the time.

Sausages bring 8d. per lb ; fresh butter, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d., and eggs, from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 6d. per dozen.

Poultry and game have also risen greatly in price, being sold as under:—

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.				
Chickens	3	0	to	4	0	per pair	Pigeons	0	9	„	1	0	per pair
Ducks	3	0	„	5	0	„	Woodcocks	5	0	„	7	0	a couple
Barnacle	4	0	„	5	0	„	Plover	1	0	„	1	6	„
Partridge	3	0	„	3	6	„	Green Plover	0	6	„	0	0	„
Pheasants	7	0	„	8	0	„	Wild Geese	4	0	„	0	0	„
Snipe	1	6	„	1	8	„	Geese	5	0	„	7	0	„
Wild Duck	3	0	„	4	0	„	Turkeys	4	0	„	7	0	„
Widgeon	3	0	„	3	6	„	Curlew	0	9	„	1	0	each
Teal	2	6	„	0	0	„	Hares	2	0	„	3	0	a piece
Quail	1	0	„	1	6	„							

Rabbits 2s. 6d. to 3s. per pair, without the skins. The prices of other articles are as follows:—

\* Penny Cyclopædia, Article, Wakefield.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Salmon	5	6	to	0 0	per lb.	Sole	2	0	to 5 6
Haddock	0	6	"	0 0	"	Whiting	1	6	" 2 0
Trout	1	0	"	0 0	"	Herrings	0	10	" 1 0
Turbot	0	6	"	1 3	"	Lobsters	1	0	" 2 6
Pike	0	4	"	0 0	"	Crabs	1	0	" 6 0
Brill	0	6	"	0 8	"	Oysters	12	0	" 16 0
Eels	0	4	"	0 6	"	Apples	2	6	" 4 0
Cod	0	3	"	0 0	"	Grapes	1	0	" 4 0
Plaice	0	3	"	0 4	"				

Pine Apples, Pears, Gooseberries, Damsons, and a few other articles, vary in price with the season and quantity for sale.

## VEGETABLES.

Per cwt. of 112 lbs.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Potatoes, (cruffles)	3	0	to	3 10
Skerries	3	0	"	3 10
Rocks	2	0	"	3 0
Carrots, red	3	0	"	3 6
Turnips, Swede	0	8	"	1 0
Mangel Wurtzel	1	0	"	1 3
Cabbage p.	124	4	0	" 18 0

## VEGETABLES.

s. d. s. d.

Potatoes	0	5	to	0 8
Carrots	0	2	"	0 3
Cauliflowers	1	0	"	4 0
Parsely	0	6	"	2 0
Celery	1	0	"	3 0
Parsnips	1	0	"	0 0
Red Cabbage	0	2	"	0 6
Brussels Sprouts	0	6	"	a dish

## GRAIN, &amp;c.

Per cwt. of 112 lbs.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat, white	12	9	to	13 9
" red	12	3	"	13 0
Oats, old	7	8	"	8 9
Oatmeal	14	6	"	15 0
Beans	8	0	"	9 6
Flax, per st.	5	0	"	11 0
Tow, per cwt.	2	6	"	9 0

## GRAIN, &amp;c.

Per cwt. of 112 lbs.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Tow scutched	15	0	"	25 0

## HAY AND STRAW.

Hay, new	5	6	"	6 6
" meadow	3	0	"	4 10
Straw, oat	2	8	"	3 2
" wheat	2	10	"	3 0

Both Hay and straw are exceptionally dear, being higher, by one to two shillings than the average.

PRICE OF BREAD.—Extra superfine 4lb. loaf. 8½d.; superfine 4lb. loaf 8d.; fine, do., 7½d.; Hungarian cottage loaf, 3d. to 6d.

All articles are, of course, subject to some variation, regulated by the season, demand, and supply, as exemplified in the case of salmon, which falls to 10d. or 1s. in the pound.

The prices of flax vary very much, having suddenly declined after

the close of the war between England and France, to the amount of forty per cent. They subsequently advanced, but for the last few years, they have not changed very much.

In 1859 hand-scutched flax bought from 8s. to 9s. 6d. per stone, and milled flax, from 9s. 6d. to 16s. per stone.

In 1810 undressed flax brought from 17s. to 22s. per stone, and dressed flax, 26s to 36s.

FAIRS.—The fairs in the county, as appears from the following list, are sufficiently numerous to afford ample facilities for the extensive traffic which is constantly going on, not to speak of the large markets both for store and fat cattle holden in Belfast :—

Annadorn, May 14, November 8.

Ardmillan, 1st January, April, July, October.

Baloo, first Wednesday in January, April, July, October.

Ballydugan, May 19.

Banbridge, January 12, June 9, August 26, and the first Monday of every other month.

Bangor, January 12, May 1, November 22.

Ballynahinch, third Thursday of every month.

Ballywalter, June 22, November 8.

Bryansford, June 3.

Carrowdore, 7th February, May, August, November.

Castlereagh, July 5, October 26, November 20.

Castlewellan, 1st February, May, June, September, and the second Monday of every other month.

Clough, May 27, July 5, third Friday of October, 22nd November, and Friday before Christmas.

Comber, January 5, April 5, June 28, October 19.

Crossgar, second Wednesday in each month.

Donaghadee, last Wednesday in May (o.s.), August 16, October 10, last Wednesday in November. (o.s.)

Donaghmore, 22nd June and October.

Downpatrick, first Tuesday of every month.

Dromara, February, 6, March 20, May 1, June 19, August 7, September 18, November 6, December 18.

Dromore, March 7, May 12, August 1, October 10, December 12.

Dundrum, January 3, February 5, May 12, August 6, October 10.

Gilford, last Friday of each month.

Greencastle, 12th January and August.

Greyabbey, March 28, June 22, October 29, December 4.

Hillsborough, third Wednesday in each month.

Hilltown, second Tuesday in each month, and November 2.  
 Hollywood, first Monday in February, May, August, and November.  
 Kilkeel, first Wednesday in each month.  
 Killyleagh, April 10, June 3 and 15, October 11, December 11.  
 Killinchy, first Wednesday in February, May, August, and November.  
 Killough, February 15, June 5, August 15, November 15.  
 Kilmore, February 4, March 14, May 1, June 3, August 5, September 29, November 5, December 16.  
 Kircubbin, 28th April, May, August, and November, and first Monday of the other months.  
 Loughbrickland, third Tuesday of each month, also March 28.  
 Moira, first Thursday in each month.  
 Newry, April 20, October 29.  
 Newtownards, second Saturday in each month, also January 23, May 14, September 23.  
 Portaferry, January 1, July 31, and second Tuesday in each month.  
 Rostrevor, February 18, April 21, June 9, August 1, September 19, November 1, December 11.  
 Rathfriland, first Wednesday of every month.  
 Saintfield, last Wednesday of every month.  
 Scarvagh, March 21, June 19, September 5, November 14.  
 Seaforde, first Tuesday in each month.  
 Sheepbridge, first Friday in February, May, August, and November.  
 Strangford, June 8, August 12, November 8.  
 Warrenpoint, last Friday in each month.

The following fairs not in, but connected with the county, occur in

Ballybot, the first Monday in each month.  
 Lisburn, formerly the 21st of July, the 5th of October, and the first Tuesday in January and in May, and now once every month.  
 Belfast, the first Wednesday in every month.  
 Lurgan, the second Thursday in every month, and the 5th and 6th of August, and 22nd and 23rd of November.  
 Tandragee, the second Wednesday in each month, and the 5th of July, and 5th of November.  
 Poyntzpass, the first Saturday in every month, and July the 8th.  
 Portadown, the third Saturday in each month.

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## CHAPTER XVII.

### Workhouse Employments and Poor Relief.

IT has been announced on the highest of all authorities, that “the poor shall never cease out of the land;” and in all countries, measures in some form have been adopted for the relief of poverty, and the social evils connected with it. In this kingdom, the first plan adopted under the 10th and 11th of Charles I., was the establishment of Houses of Correction, for setting to work and punishing “all rogues, vagabonds, lewd and idle persons, jugglers, and sturdy beggars, and all persons using unlawful games and plays, or foretelling destinies.” By subsequent enactments, including the 2nd of Queen Anne, c. 19, the 9th of George II., and the 11th and 12 of George III., provision was made for the establishment of Workhouses, and of Foundling Hospitals, in Dublin, Cork, and Galway, for the prevention of vagrancy and begging, and various other statutes of the last-named monarch, extended the power of instituting Houses of Industry, to the whole of the kingdom. Subsequently, it was enacted in the same reign, that corporations, founded for the purpose, should have authority, to issue licenses to beg, and to badge such poor, as were unable to maintain themselves, whilst all other persons were rigidly prohibited from begging. The Houses of Industry were variously supported, by donations, licenses on hackney coaches, and sedan chairs, house and coal taxes, and, subsequently, by the addition of grants from the public funds. In 1825, under the 6th of George IV., provision was made for the maintenance of foundling children, in the various parishes throughout the kingdom, and their conveyance to the Foundling Hospital in Dublin, at the cost of parish assess-

ments. The different Acts referred to constituted a sort of poor relief, applicable to the County Down, in common with other parts of the kingdom, but one vital defect, running through the whole of them, was the absence of any provision to render their requirements compulsory.

Attention having at last been directed to the expediency of making provision, at least for the sick poor, a County Infirmary was erected at Downpatrick, in pursuance of the 5th and 6th of George III. in the Irish Parliament, and under the 54th of the same monarch, and the 3rd and 4th, and 6th and 7th, of William IV., the surgeon is bound to reside within a mile of the Infirmary, his salary being now only £100 (Irish) as a further sum of the same amount (deducting pells and poundage), which he formerly received annually, ceased to be payable, under a clause in the Medical Charities Act.

By the 54th of George III., no annual subscriber can vote at an election of an officer, unless his subscription shall have been paid two years before such vacancy occurs. An annual subscription of three guineas qualifies as a governor, and a donation of twenty guineas as a governor for life.

The Marquis of Westmeath's Act (1833) prohibits life governors from voting at election of medical officers, for twelve months after payment of such donation.

The Irish Act, 7 and 8 George III. provides "that no person shall be appointed Physician to any County Infirmary, who shall not be examined, and certified to be duly qualified, under the seal of the King and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland.

The qualification necessary for an Apothecary to a County Infirmary, (the legal salary of which is £30 Irish) is, that he "shall have duly served an apprenticeship," (54 George III.) by which wording it has been held, that licentiates of the London Society of Apothecaries are qualified to hold such appointments, though otherwise disqualified by the Irish Apothecaries' Act, from practising in this kingdom.

The power of voting commences on the 25th of June, the day

on which subscriptions legally become due. Patients are admitted on the recommendation of a governor, according to priority of application.

After the establishment of the Irish College of surgeons, it was enacted by the 36th George III., that the letters testimonial of that body should be the legal qualification for holding the office of surgeon to a County Infirmary, and this qualification was continued by the 54th George III.

The officials of the Infirmary are a surgeon, apothecary, and treasurer, with three chaplains of the chief religious denominations, and its affairs are under the direction of a board of governors.

The registration of the patients and the other duties are efficiently discharged by Dr. M'Conkey, the present surgeon.

The Infirmary contains forty beds, in addition to a residence for the medical officer.

The Down Infirmary is well managed, but it is obvious, that forty beds are totally inadequate for the wants of the large population of the County, even if it were practicable for patients, resident at a distance, to avail themselves of its benefits. The defect of accommodation has, however, to a great extent been remedied by the establishment of Infirmaries at all the workhouses.

The expense of the patients, of course, varies. In the year 1839, the expenditure for each was £2 17s. 7d., but from the increased cost of living, it is now considerably more, having amounted in the past year to £3 6s.

The expenses in the Down Infirmary are defrayed by donations, subscriptions, interest of accumulated property, and county presentments. The county taxation, however, does not fall equitably on the different baronies, as will appear from the following statement, founded on official returns obtained in two given years, occurring at long intervals. In the first year, 1839, 144 patients were admitted from within a distance of five miles of the Infirmary; 89 from within five to ten miles; and 108 from beyond a distance of ten miles, but comparatively few from the extremes of the county; and in the second year referred to, of 339 patients, 169 resided

within five miles of Downpatrick ; 64 at a distance of five to ten miles ; and 106 beyond this limit, whilst all parts of the County are taxed alike. This objection, not unreasonably urged against these valuable institutions, might be obviated, by assessing each barony, in proportion to the number of patients admitted from within its bounds, instead of taxing the county at large, many districts of which never derive any benefit whatever, in return.

At a considerable interval, subsequently to the institution of the County Infirmaries, a further provision for the sick poor was made by the 45th George III., under the enactments of which, a number of Dispensaries were established, which afforded a considerable, but still inadequate, amount of relief.

In the year 1840 there were only fifteen dispensaries in the County, for the relief of the entire poor, in a population then exceeding 350,000 persons, whereas under the present law, there are about forty-five of these institutions in active operation. It is true, that the Infirmary corporations had authority for establishing dispensaries, but it was little exercised, and at any rate, it only applied to the towns where the Infirmaries were situated, whilst no provision was made for domiciliary visitation.

In view of the deficiency still existing, the guardians of the poor were then empowered to provide dispensaries, in the several unions, but the authority was but sparingly exercised, and in this county, I believe, not at all, and finally, the Medical Charities Act, 14 & 15 Vic. c. 68, was passed, which was a great improvement on anything that had gone before, as instead of the previous precarious support, the provision of the necessary funds was rendered compulsory, and a system of supervision enforced, under the direction of Managing Committees, and the Local Government Board, and their Inspectors. The present dispensary districts comprise a varying number of electoral divisions, according to their extent and other circumstances. Thus, in the Kilkeel and Castlereagh districts, there are five divisions, in Warrenpoint two, and in Bangor, owing to its large area, only one. In each district there is one, two or three dispensary buildings, in

proportion to its extent. The salaries of the Medical officers vary from about £80 to £120 per annum, but some addition would still seem desirable, on account of the multifarious, harassing, and dangerous duties they are called on to perform. Their position has, however, been materially improved by the Superannuation Act, which empowers Boards of Guardians to give them retiring allowances, when disabled by age or infirmity.

A material improvement in the new as compared with the previous law, is the provision made for the effective relief of patients in childbirth, by the election of official midwives, which has been made in the districts of Portaferry, Castlereagh, Kilkeel, Rostrevor, Warrenpoint, and Downpatrick, but a regulation to make the appointment compulsory, in all districts, is much required. On the whole, the present system of medical relief is, in many points, superior to that which preceded it, although certain improvements might still be suggested, including the formation of dispensary districts by the union of townlands, in place of electoral divisions, and thereby rendering them more central and accessible, and at the same time economising the time of the medical attendant. This object might be further promoted by simplifying and abridging the voluminous books and records, at present in use. Other improvements would probably be found in substituting a better mode of providing medicines than that by contract, and in guarding by more stringent measures, against the abuse of issuing tickets of relief to persons not in a position to require eleemosynary aid.

**FEVER HOSPITALS.** The establishment of Fever Hospitals was rendered necessary by the frequent prevalence of fever and other contagious diseases.

These Hospitals were of two classes, viz:—County Hospitals, avowedly for the purpose of receiving, like the infirmaries, patients from all parts of their respective counties, and district Hospitals, for the accommodation of a barony, half-barony, or one or more parishes, as the case might be. These institutions were established under the provisions of the 54th



and 59th George III., the 2nd George IV., and the Grand Jury Act, (the 6th and 7th William IV.)

The County Fever Hospital was of course situated in Downpatrick, and two others at Newry, and Hillsborough. The last of these has long been relinquished, and more recently that at Downpatrick, their continuance having been rendered unnecessary, by the establishment of Fever Hospitals at all the Workhouses. But at any rate the idea of having a Fever Hospital for an entire county was absurd, even if it had been large enough to admit all that might require relief. The only Fever Hospital now in the County is that adjacent to Newry, and as I was obligingly informed by Dr. Ross, late the medical attendant, it has accommodation for thirty-six patients.

The building is erected in a high and airy situation, a short distance from the town, and contains four public and two private wards, an operating room, hot, cold, and shower baths, with apartments for the house steward, matron, and nurses. The institution has, however, ceased to be exclusively a Fever Hospital, as patients suffering from all diseases, whether medical or surgical, are admitted, and in the immediate vicinity of a large commercial town, it, no doubt, is very useful. The same objection, however, to a county assessment in aid of its support, applies equally to this, and the County Infirmary.

The Fever Hospitals first described were supported by subscriptions and Grand Jury presentments united, but the Workhouse Fever Hospitals are erected and maintained solely at the cost of the poor rate.

**LUNATIC ASYLUMS.** The laws regulating the establishment of Lunatic Asylums are the 57th of George III., and the 1st and 2nd, and 6th and 7th, of George IV. Under the provisions of these acts, a large asylum has been erected on an elevated and healthy position about a mile from Downpatrick. It was completed and fitted up, in 1869, at a cost of about £60,000, and the County Down patients were transferred from the joint Asylum of Down and Antrim, near Belfast, in which they had



previously been maintained. The Asylum is under the management of a Board of Governors, appointed by the Lord Lieutenant. This Board, and the Board of Works jointly, constitute a Commission, for superintending the erection, establishment, and regulation of these institutions.

Moneys were advanced by Government for the building and fitting up of the establishment, and support of the patients, the Grand Jury being required to present for repayment, as the Lord Lieutenant in Council shall direct. Such advance, however, cannot legally exceed £10,000 in any one quarter of a year.

The Lord Lieutenant has also the power of altering districts.

According to the information obligingly procured for me by Mr. Conway Pilson, of Downpatrick, the establishment at present has accommodation for three hundred patients.

The officers are a resident physician, or governor, an assistant physician, and a visiting physician, having respectively the salaries of £400, £100, and £100 per annum. The other officers are the Clerk, who has also a salary of £100, and a matron, who receives £60 per annum, with a number of attendants and servants, who are paid in proportion to their duties.

There are also three chaplains, who act gratuitously.

The present governor is Dr. George Tyner, the visiting physician, Dr. John Maconchy, and the assistant physician, Dr. Hetherington. The average number of patients for the past year was 276, and the cost for each was £30 10s. 6d., the expenditure on the whole having been over £9,200. No restraint is used, and no accidents have hitherto occurred, whilst the general condition of the inmates has been very healthy.

The Downpatrick Asylum stands in a commanding position, and is a very large, handsome, and well arranged building, and reflects much credit on Mr. Henry Smyth, C.E., the architect.

**POOR RELIEF ACTS.** The evils of mendicancy having strongly attracted attention, a Parliamentary Committee was appointed to consider the extension of a Poor Law to Ireland, but they

reported unfavourably to any system of compulsory relief. The Workhouse plan, however, was very strongly advocated by Mr. Nichol, a member of the English, and subsequently of the Irish Poor Law Commission, and the present Poor Relief Act, altered and supplemented by several subsequent statutes, was introduced by Lord John Russell, and after much opposition, passed through Parliament, in 1838.

The law was, with great promptitude, brought into operation, and the kingdom was divided into one hundred and thirty unions, and a Workhouse erected in each, three unions, and parts of six others, being in the County of Down. The operation of the Poor Relief Acts, which have been carried out in an able and energetic manner, has been very beneficial, and the great advantages they conferred were especially seen during the terrible famine, still feelingly remembered.

In 1846, the disastrous failure in the potato crop, followed during the two ensuing years, by great distress, famine and pestilence, which, though severely enough felt in this county, did not prevail to the same extent as in some other parts of the kingdom, owing to the better circumstances of the inhabitants, and the strenuous efforts to meet the calamity made by the large proprietors, amongst whom the name of the late Marquis of Downshire is especially deserving of remembrance, for his munificent contributions. The magnitude of this great disaster may be estimated from the fact, that about 300,000 persons were supported, for a part of two years, at an expense of one million of pounds per month, granted by the Imperial Parliament, under the Labour-rate Act, and the Temporary Relief Act, 10 Vic. cap. 7; not to speak of the very large private contributions.

The Workhouses were overcrowded with sick, and many of the officials died, and to add to the calamity, cholera again made its appearance in 1849.\*

In administering the Irish Poor Relief Acts, the country has

\* Nichol's History of the Poor Law.

been divided into Unions, Electoral Divisions, and Dispensary Districts, and an Infirmary, in all cases, forms a part of the Workhouse buildings, to which a Fever Hospital has likewise been attached. Electoral divisions, differing much in extent, are formed by a combination of Townlands, and each Union consists of a number of such divisions.

In each district, a dispensary has been either rented, or, in rare cases, built, with the necessary accommodation for consultation, prescribing, and administering medical and surgical assistance. The general government of these institutions was under the control of Poor Law Commissioners for Ireland, five in number, viz. : two Executive Commissioners, Sir Alfred Power, and Mr. Bellew; the Chief and Under Secretary for the time being, together with one Medical Commissioner, Dr. John Macdonnell, appointed under the Medical Charities Act; but by a recent Act, the former Poor Law Commission has merged in "The Local Government Board for Ireland," consisting of the same members, but clothed with additional powers for the discharge of their increased functions. The supervision of the several unions is entrusted to ordinary and medical Inspectors, and the examination of the financial affairs to a fixed number of Auditors, who visit the various institutions from time to time.

The Local Executive Board, in each Union, consists of Elected Guardians and Justices of the Peace, who are termed Ex-officio Guardians.

Boards of Guardians meet weekly, and their sittings are presided over by a Chairman, Vice-chairman, and a Deputy Vice-chairman, elected annually.

The Executive Officers in each Union are a Master, a Matron, a Treasurer, a Clerk, a Schoolmaster, a Schoolmistress, one or more Medical Attendants, together with Relieving Officers, and Collectors of the Poor-rate, and a staff of Dispensary Medical Attendants.

The Clerk usually holds, in addition, the situation of Returning Officer at the annual election of Guardians, together with the

appointment of Superintendent Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages; and each dispensary physician acts as Registrar of a district, which is usually conterminous with his dispensary district, under the Registration Act, 26 Vic., c. 11, and the Registration of Marriage Act, 7 & 8 Vic., c. 81, the latter having come into operation in 1863, and the former in 1864. An amended Act, 26 & 27 Vic., c. 90, abolished the exemption from registering, which the Roman Catholic Clergy had enjoyed under a former Act.

The County of Down contains the Unions of Downpatrick, Kilkeel, and Newtownards, with parts of the Unions of Banbridge, Belfast, Lurgan, Lisburn, and Newry.

The Poor Relief Expenditure includes salaries, clothing, food, furniture, utensils, printing, advertising, stationery, assistance towards emigration, postage, cost of collecting the rates, burial expenses, outlay in the election of guardians, medical and surgical appliances, and drugs, &c.

The expenditure is met by a poundage rate on the valuation of the lands, houses, and tenements in each electoral division, and a grant of one moiety, from the Consolidated Fund, of the cost of the medical and school departments. The rate varies materially in the several electoral divisions, and in different years, according to the numbers relieved, the price of provisions, and various other circumstances, the lowest rate in any recent year, in any division, being 2d., and the highest 3s. 6d., one half being payable by the landlord, and the other by the tenant. From a return made to the House of Commons, in 1868, it appeared that if a union rating of 6d. in the pound had been adopted, the highest increase or decrease, in any electoral division, would have been 2½d.

Relief is usually administered in the workhouse, but in peculiar circumstances out-door relief is also sparingly given.

The total outlay for a given year may be stated as follows:—Downpatrick Union, £4279; Kilkeel, £1125; Newtownards, £5071; Banbridge, £4027; Belfast, £25,552; Lurgan, £4615; Lisburn, £2961, and Newry £5815; whilst the cost under the

Medical Charities Act, in the same unions, was respectively £1100; £546; £1179; £979; £3360; £1075; £1034, and £1443, and there is some additional expenditure incurred under the Registration, Sanitary, Vaccination, and Burial Board Acts.

The average poundage in the several unions to meet the expense, varied, being 6d. in Downpatrick; 6½d. in Kilkeel; 9¼d. in Newtownards; 6d¼. in Banbridge; 11¾d. in Belfast; 8d. in Lurgan; 4¼d. in Lisburn, and 8¾d. in Newry, whilst the numbers relieved were:—15,432 in Belfast; 2430 in Lisburn; 3682 in Lurgan; 2417 in Banbridge; 2025 in Downpatrick; 620 in Kilkeel; 3579 in Newry, and 2434 in Newtownards.

The cost of each patient, at a dispensary, varies materially in different years, and in various institutions, ranging from 1s. 6d to 2s. 6d., and to 3s., 4s. and 5s., and in some rare instances, to 7s.; but from 2s. to 3s. may be considered as about the average expense.

The Downpatrick Union comprises an area of 147,362 acres, and 24 electoral divisions. The workhouse is calculated to hold 895 inmates; but on an average of the last seven years, they have only amounted to 270.

The valuation is about £174,593, and the population 57,953 individuals. The dispensaries are Downpatrick, Clough, Ballinahinch, Killyleagh, Killough, Strangford, and Portaferry.

The Board of Guardians meet on Saturday.

The Kilkeel Union contains an area of 81,829 acres, divided into ten electoral divisions, having a population of 22,611 persons.

The Workhouse is adapted to hold 350 inmates, besides thirty-two patients, in the fever hospital; but the annual daily number for the past year was only 101. The Board meets on Mondays. The Dispensaries are situated at Kilkeel, Bryansford, and Rostrevor. The Kilkeel district has a second dispensary, at Annalong, and two medical officers.

The Newtownards Union comprises an area of 92,850 acres, forming sixteen electoral divisions. The present valuation is £133,694, and the population 53,428.



The Workhouse would contain 1262 inmates, and the fever hospital ninety patients. The average number in the house for the last seven years was 443; the average cost of each, being 1s. 10d. per week.

The Board meeting is on Saturday.

The Dispensaries are at Newtownards, Comber, Kilmoody, Greyabbey, Donaghadee, and Bangor.

The Banbridge Union includes an area of 125,076 acres, arranged in twenty-three electoral divisions. The Down portion contains 107,139 acres, valued at £11,743, the population being 61,398 persons. The valuation of the entire Union is £157,413.

The Workhouse is calculated to hold 1059 inmates, and the fever hospital has forty beds, but there was not one-fourth of this number in the house, at any one time, in the year 1870.

The Board meeting is on Monday.

The Dispensaries are, Banbridge, Dromore, Crossgar, Ballyward, Loughbrickland, and Tandragee, which last is in the County of Armagh.

The Workhouse of the Belfast Union, which lies partly in the County of Down, and partly in Antrim, is in the town of Belfast. The total area of the Union is 47,806 acres, forming eleven electoral divisions, and containing a population of 14,427 persons.

The valuation is £497,066, but it varies in this, as in other unions, from time to time, owing to the erection of new buildings, and changes in the value of property. Five of the divisions are in the County of Down, and the remaining six are in Antrim. The population of the former is 8276; and the valuation of the County Down portion of the Union is £81,371.

There are two Dispensary districts in the Union, viz. :—Belfast and Castlereagh; the former, divided into several sub-districts, is entirely in Antrim, and the latter, containing the three dispensary sub-districts of Ballymacarrett, Ballyhackamore, and Holywood, each having a medical officer, is situated in the County of Down.

The Workhouse buildings are calculated to accommodate 2961



persons ; the fever hospital, 501, and the infirmary, 500, but additions have been recently made to these buildings. The average numbers, in the three departments of the establishment, for the seven years preceding 1871, were respectively 1094, 312, and 394.

The Belfast Board of Guardians meet on Tuesdays.

The Lurgan Union is partly in Armagh, and partly in Antrim, with six divisions in the County of Down. The entire area is 77,464 acres, the population consisting of 73,930 persons. The valuation is £138,592. The Down portion of the Union contains 2,7274 acres, and a population of 20,535 persons.

The Workhouse is adapted for 1156 inmates, whilst the average number, for the last seven years, only amounted to 448.

The meetings of the Board of Guardians take place on Thursdays.

The Dispensaries in the Union, are at Lurgan, Portadown, Aghalee, Moira, and Waringstown, the three last being in the County of Down.

The Lisburn Union is partly in the County of Down, and partly in Antrim. The total area of the Union is 11,9842 acres, forming twenty-seven electoral divisions ; and of these, fifteen divisions, comprising 71,642 acres, are in Down.

The total population of the Union is 66,882 persons, and the valuation £16,7767.

The Workhouse is calculated to hold 982 inmates, and the fever hospital 58 ; but the average number of patients, for the last seven years, only amounted to 327.

The Board meeting is on Tuesday.

The Dispensaries are Lisburn, Hillsborough, Ballylesson, Saintfield, and Annahilt, all, with the exception of Lisburn, being in the County of Down.

The Newry Union contains an area of 137,877 acres, forming twenty-two electoral divisions.

Of these, 65,557 acres, comprising eleven divisions, are in the County of Down, and the remainder in Armagh. The population of the Down portion is 36,577.

The valuation of the entire Union is £160,562, and of the divisions in the County of Down, £67,752.

The Workhouse adjoins the town of Newry, but is situated in the County of Armagh. It would contain 986 inmates, but the annual number, in recent years, has only been 486.

The fever hospital has accommodation for sixty patients.

The meetings of the Board of Guardians are held on Saturdays.

The Dispensaries are Newry, Warrenpoint, Rathfriland, Donaghmore, Meigh, Forkhill, Mountnorris, and Mullaglass, the four last being in the County of Armagh.

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PART IV.  
GEOGRAPHY, TOPOGRAPHY, LINEAGE,  
AND BIOGRAPHY.

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CHAPTER XVIII.

Topography of the County at large.

Down is a maritime County, in the north-east district of Ulster, lying between  $54^{\circ}$  and  $54^{\circ} 40'$ , of north latitude, in the same parallel with Cumberland, Westmoreland, and the Isle of Man, and within  $5^{\circ} 18'$  and  $6^{\circ} 20'$ , of longitude, west from Greenwich. It is bounded on the north, by the County of Antrim, and the Bay of Carrickfergus, on the south and east, by the Irish channel, and on the west, by the counties of Armagh and Louth, from which it is separated by the Bay of Carlingford, and the Clanrye or Newry river. Its greatest length, from Cranfield to Orloch point, its south-western and north-eastern extremities, is 51 English miles; in breadth, however, it varies considerably, being, at the widest, from Moyallan to the Ballywalter coast, about 38 statute miles. The length of the seaboard, following the line of coast from Belfast to Newry, by Donaghadee, Lough Strangford, and the Bay of Carlingford, is about 125 miles. Its boundaries varied at different times. At one period, as may be seen on reference to Speed's Map, "performed" in 1610, the whole of the barony of upper Massareene, and a portion of that of upper Belfast, were in the County of Down, besides a part of the present County of Armagh, situate at that point, where the

conterminal portions of the two counties formed the ancient district of Clanbrassil, thus quaintly described by an old writer:—"Clainbrazel McGoolechan is a very fast country of wood and bog, inhabited with a sept called the Kellies, is a very savage and barbarous people, given altogether to spoiles and robberies, greatly affected to the Scott, whom they often draw into their countres, for the spoilinge of the subject. They do contribute, but at their own pleasure, to the captain of south Clandeboy." Their numbers, however, were not formidable, as "they could only make but some one hundred and twenty kerne or shott," only an insignificant array to bring into the field.

At this early period, the boundaries between Armagh and Down were not well defined, for in a grant made by James I. to Sir Francis Stafford, certain denominations of land were described as lying in the former county, while in a subsequent conveyance of the same lands to Sir Oliver Lambert, they are stated to be in Orier Country, in the County of Down.

The ancient County of Down, therefore, comprised separate portions of four modern counties, viz: Down, Antrim, Armagh, and Louth, for Lecale, now one of its component parts, was, when first subjugated, within the Pale, and held to be included in the last mentioned county, for we find it stated by a very old authority, "That the English dominions in Downe comprised the seignories of Lowth, Down, and Knockfergus, and the several counties of the Ardes and Clandeboy, together with the possessions of Bagnall, including the Newry, Morne, and Greencastle." And in another ancient account, termed a "Brief description of Ireland," about the year 1598, the following districts are all enumerated as parts of the County of Down: "Glanbrassel, a boggy and woody country, Kilultagh, a boggy country on Lough Ragh, Kilwarlin, Kilaubrey, lying between Kilwarlin and Lecale, and Glanconkeyne on the river Bannside, in O'Chane's country." A third writer describes Down as consisting of the Lordship of Newry, and the Lordship of Mourne, Evagh, otherwise called Maguire's country, Kilulto, Kilwarlyn,

Kinalearty, Clainbrazel, M'Goolechan, Lecahull, Diffirin, Little Ardes, Great Ardes, and South Clandeboy." Kilultagh (Coil Ultach) the wood of Ulster, which is now a part of the County of Antrim, at that time constituted a distinct territory, not forming any part of the district of Clandeboy.\*

The territory of Clanbrassil, we may state in passing, has given a title to two families : in the first instance, to James Hamilton, of Clandeboy, in 1647, and afterwards, in 1756, to the Earl of Roden, who sits in the House of Peers by the title of Baron Clanbrassil.

The ancient County Down, as above described, bore the obsolete name of Ulagh, or in Latin, Ulidia. This appellation was derived from Uladh (pronounced Ulla), and the Scandinavian adjunct "*stadr*," signifying a place, the two terms being contracted into 'Ulster,' which was subsequently applied to the entire province. I should here remark, that for some of the above, and other curious information, I am indebted to an annotated edition of Harris, drawn up by the late Counsellor James Reilly, and very obligingly placed at my disposal, by his relative, Mr. John Temple Reilly, of Scarva House.

In reading over some of the ancient descriptions of the county, we frequently meet with the appellation of Dalriada, Delriada, Dalaradia, Dalarida, or Dalariada, as applied to certain parts of it, but as the territories implied by that term varied considerably, at different times, it may be necessary to give some explanation regarding them. One writer derives the name, which he spells Dalarida, from "Dalardobha, or Dalar-daubha, *i. e.* the high district, or highlands of the County of Down, situated on the water near the Ards, and lying between the Bay of Strangford and the sea, the ancient chiefs of which were called Maghardon, corrupted into Macartane, *i. e.* the chiefs of the high country." They were dispossessed by the Savages,

\* Document in the State Paper Office, interlined by Lord Burghley, being a description of the ancient state of Ulster. December, 1450.

though some of them remained in possession of the western parts of the county, down to the commencement of the last century. One of the chiefs of the territory referred to is Dichu, whose name is memorable, as having been the first convert to Christianity, made by St. Patrick, in the north of Ireland. By another authority, Dalariada is described as the district of the eastern county, next the sea, deriving the appellation from Dal ar adbui, terms which imply the eastern territory in the watery country, to which the writer gives a much more extended range, as including a wide district, called also "Maghennisce," bounded by the loughs of Carlingford, Dundrum, Neagh. Strangford, and Carrickfergus, which was, in the greater part, under the control of the Magennis. According to this latter description, Dalariada, also called Ulidia, comprised not only the whole of Down, but a considerable portion of Antrim.\* Subsequently, however, the term Dalaradia appears to have been limited to a tract consisting of the western part of Down, whilst Dalriada, according to Joyce, included that part of Antrim, which extended from the Ravel water northward to the Route, and was so called from Cairbre Riada, a son of Conaire, one of the kings of the country, the term Dalriada properly signifying Riada's portion, or tribe.†

Colgan's definition of the district is as follows:—"Dalaradia est maritima, et orientalis. Ultoniæ regio, ab oppido Juorio (Newry) usque montem Mis protensa," Mis being the mountain now termed Sleamish.

The correct derivation of the term Dalriada, according to Reeves, a competent authority, is from Dal, posterity, and Araidhe, a king of Ulster, in the year 236.

The district in question was also termed the country of the Cruithne, or Picts.

In remote times, the extensive territory now forming the

\* Ware's Antiquities.

† Joyce's Names of Places, p. 83, also Coll. Reb. Hib. pp. 327, 328.



County of Down, was subdivided into Iva-each, or Ullah, Daldichu, Dalarida, and Hy-huanan, and the more recent divisions, of the Lordship of Newrie, and of Mourne, Kinalearty, Lecahull, Diffirin, Little Ardes, and Great Ardes, which are still comprised within their ancient limits, and form the Baronies so named. Evagh, or the county of Magennis, is now included in Upper and Lower Iveagh, Kilwarlyn and Kilaubrey, forming a part of the latter, as Glanconkeyne, of the former Barony.

South Clondeboy, with small portions of Dufferin, and the Lower Ards, closely correspond with the Baronies of Upper and Lower Castlereagh, whilst Kilulto merged in the County of Antrim, and Clanbrassil and M'Goolechan, in Armagh.

At a very remote period a district comprising both Down and Antrim was inhabited by a tribe called "Clanna Rury," who derived their name from their ancestor "Rudhraidha Mor." Their dominion was extensive, as they ruled over the whole of Ulster, their taxation amounting to one hundred and fifty cows, and the same number of hogs, according to the primitive rating of the period.

In the beginning of the fourteenth century, Down consisted of three separate counties, viz. :—Down, Newton, and Ards, and in an inquisition of the estates of William de Burgo, in 1335, we find the entries of "Comitatus Nove ville" de Blathwyce. These, however, were subsequently amalgamated, and the Antrim and Armagh portions of the county having been detached, and Lecale added, its boundaries, as now laid down on the modern maps, were finally determined. This distribution appears to have taken place prior to the settlement of Sir John Perrot.

The arrangement of the county in baronies was principally effected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and it now stands as follows, viz. :—the Lordship of Newry, and the Baronies of Lower Castlereagh, Upper Castlereagh, Dufferin, Lower Lecale, Upper Lecale, Kinelarty Upper Iveagh; Lower Iveagh, Lower Castlereagh, and Lower and Upper Ards. The terms upper and lower, as here applied, has however no reference to the altitude

of the baronies above the level of the sea, but merely indicate their contiguity to the metropolis. A further civil and ecclesiastical division of the baronies was into parishes, the great majority of which are entirely within the County, except a few on the confines of Antrim and Armagh, which are common to these counties, and to Down. We may instance Shankill, Blaris, and Drumbo, the first being in Down and Armagh, and the two latter partly in the former county, and partly in Antrim. The civil and episcopal parochial divisions nearly correspond. In the majority of instances, a parish is situated within a single barony, but a few run into two of these divisions, of which the parish of Killyleagh and Kilmore are examples, as they form parts of the baronies both of Dufferin, and Lower Castlereagh.

Sir John Perrot, whose government commenced in 1584, omits from his enumeration both the counties of Antrim and Down, presumably because they had been already settled; but sheriffs were in many instances created by patent prior to that time, as we find that Edward II. granted the shrievalty of Down and Newton, (probably erected into counties in the time of John de Courcy,) to Sir John Mandeville, during pleasure, with the customary fees; and sheriffs of "Ardes" and Lecale, now only baronies, were also appointed about the same period.

In the earliest ages the Ards constituted both a petty principality, and a rural deanery. After the English invasion we find it styled "*Balliva del art*," which, with the *Balliva de Blathwic*, formed the shire, sometimes called *Comitatus de Arde*, and sometimes *Comitatus Novae Ville*.\*

The rural deanery did not include Bangor and Newtown, but otherwise, it was coextensive with the territories now comprised in the baronies of Lower and Upper Ards.

The following quaint description bearing on the early divisions, and condition of the county, in the time of Edward VI., is not without interest:—

\* Ware's *Antiquities*, vol. ii., p. 37.

“McGynnose his cuntrye called Iveache, wherein the Myorie [Moiria]. The same McGynnose is a civil gentleman, and useth as good order and fashion in his house, as any of his vocacion in Ireland, & doth the same Englishe like. The same Iveache hath been parcell of the Countie Down. Next to that cuntrye is M‘Cartan’s cuntrye, a man of small power, wherein are no horsemen but Kearne, which county is full of bogges, woodes, & beareth with the Captain of Lecaille. The next to that county is the Duffreyn, whereof one John Whight was landlord,—the same cuntrye is no great circuite, but small, full of woodes, water, and good lande, meet for Englishmen to inhabit. The next county to the same Eastward, is Lecaille, a handsome, playne, & champion cuntrye, of ten miles length, & fyve miles breadthe, without any woode growing therein. The next county, to that the water of Strangeforde, is Arde Savage his cuntrye, which hath bene meere Englyshe, both pleasante & fair, by the sea, which county is now in effect for the most parte voyde. The next county to Arde Savage is Clanneboye, wherein are Morientaghe Cullenaghe, one of the O’Neills, who hath the same, as Captayne of Clanneboye, but he is not able to maintayne the same. He hath eight tall gentlemen to his sonnes, and all they cannot make past twenty three horsemen.”\*

The term Clandeboy was first applied to the northern part of the Ards, after the sept of Hugh Boy had driven the English settlers to the southern end of that peninsula. As contradistinguished from South “Claneboy,” the north or lower Clandeboy, otherwise Dalriada, lay, as already described, entirely within the County of Antrim, extending from its southern confines, to the northern district, termed the Route, having the Glynnnes on the east, and the river Bann on the west, or, as described by an ancient authority, “lying from the river of Belfast, to the Rowte, and in breadth from the Glinnis, to the great ‘logue,’ called ‘Eaghe.’”

\* Harl. MSS. Mus. Brit. No. 35, fol. 188 v. 194. Ed. 6, May 8, 1552.

The formation of a kingdom into counties originated with Alfred the Great,\* who, finding his police almost entirely destroyed, by the repeated incursions of the Danes, changed the ancient provincial districts into counties, which were subdivided into hundreds, each hundred being composed of a certain number of tenths or tythings. We have not adopted the subdivision of tythings, but the division of Ireland into counties, commenced by Henry II., and carried on by King John, and Philip and Mary, was not completed, until the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when they were finally arranged as they now stand.

But even subsequently, the country ceased to be under regulations as shire ground, during the periods, not infrequent, in which the royal arms met with reverses, and the English power was for the time on the wane.

The district of South or Upper Clandeboy, termed, in 1579, by Sir Nicholas Maltby, one of the seignories of Ulster, varied considerably in extent, at different periods. The boundaries, however, are distinctly laid down, in the grant made to James Hamilton, by King James I., and a very minute account of its constituent parts may be referred to, in the Ecclesiastical Antiquities of Dr. Reeves, founded in part on the maps of Naden and Jobson, published in 1590. Dr. Reeves subdivides the territory into nine districts, having reference to the families, by which they were anciently occupied, viz. :—1, Castlereagh ; 2, Les Gillachrewes de le Gallagh, the possessions of the O'Neils, the two forming the tract extending from Castlereagh to the Lagan ; 3, Slut or Sliocht Neales ; 4, a tract south of Ballymacarrett, occupied by a family denominated Les Mulchrieves de la Tawne, or Mulcreeve, in Irish Maolcraoilbhe, which was subsequently Anglicised as Rice ; 5, Slut Henrickies, a branch of the Clandeboy O'Neils, resident in a small portion of Killinchy, Kilmoody, and Kilmore ; 6, Slut Kellies and Kellies, the occupants of Comber and Tullinakill ; 7, Slut Hugh Bricks, the family of freckled Hugh, Sliocht aodh

\* Barne's History of Lancashire, vol. i., p. 15.

breac, dwellers in a district, lying between the hill of Scrabo and the town of Comber; 8, Slut Bryan Boye, occupying the north-eastern portion of the town of Holywood; and 9, Slut Durnings and Slut Owen Mac Quin, whose possessions were in the conterminous parts of the parishes of Holywood and Newtownards. That part of Clandeboye, lying along the confines of the Lagan, from Blaris to the Lough of Belfast, was known as the territory of Slut Malso, in the Upper Clandeboy.

The district and boundaries of South Clandeboye are thus briefly described by an old writer:—"It is for the most part a woodland, and reacheth from the Diffryn, to the river of Knockfergus (the Lagan). The captain of it, Sir Con M'Neil Oig, O'nele; and the south parte of it is able to make forty horsemen and eighty footmen."

According to the last census the area of Down, exclusive of the surface under water, comprising more than 3,000 acres, amounts to 612,409 acres, 2 roods, 6 perches, statute measure. Of the entire area, about 339,541 acres are in tillage, 12,027 acres under plantation, 187,604 in pasture, 2211 acres occupied by the towns, whilst 70,296 acres are uncultivated. The number of parishes is seventy, subdivided into many hundred townlands.

The houses amounted in 1841 to 70,014, in 1851 to 63,630; in 1861 to 62,197; and in 1871 to 62,093, of which 58,343 were inhabited, 3582 uninhabited, and 168 in process of construction, whilst the outoffices and farm steadings numbered 78,187.

It is to be observed that there is a slight difference in the results between the recent amended, and previous surveys.

The population in 1841 was 368,143, in 1851, 328,753, in 1861, 308,680, and in 1871, 293,449, of whom 138,071 were of the male and 155,378 of the female sex.

In the last-mentioned year the entire valuation of houses and lands amounted to £772,010 8s.

In 1875 the number of electors on the registry were as follows in the several polling districts:—

Ardglass, 430; Bangor, 315; Ballynahinch, 355; Banbridge,



867 ; Castlewellan, 566 ; Downpatrick, 484 ; Donaghadee, 236 ; Dromara, 359 ; Dromore, 589 ; Florida, 320 ; Gilford, 307 ; Greyabbey, 340 ; Hillsborough, 933 ; Holywood, 607 ; Kilkeel, 392 ; Killyleagh, 419 ; Moira, 335 ; Newry, 507 ; Newtownards, 760 ; Newtownbreda, 424 ; Portaferry, 362 ; Rathfriland, 952 ; Saintfield, 521 ; Seaforde, 511 ; Waringstown, 189 ; Warrenpoint, 303, making a total of 12,373 voters.

The population of the County has of course varied, at different periods. In 1580, they were estimated at half a million, and in 1641, at about a million and a half, of whom 260,000 were calculated to be Protestants.

During Cromwell's settlement, the Protestants had increased considerably, relatively to the number of Roman Catholics, the former being then 300,000, and the latter 800,000, and of these 100,000 were Scots, and almost all Presbyterians. Of the English, only one-half were Episcopalians, the rest being Presbyterians, Independents, and Quakers. The Cromwellian settlers were nearly all non-conformists, and the Scots almost wholly so.

In 1802 the numbers were estimated by Dubourdieu, at 226,632 persons, and in 1815, it was calculated that the increase had brought them up to 287,290.

The population, however, is very irregularly distributed over the face of the County, being in some districts very closely aggregated, whilst in others it is widely scattered. For instance in the parish of Kilkeel there are certain townlands containing more than eleven thousand acres, or about seventeen square miles, having only one inhabited house ; and in the adjoining parish of Kilbroney two families were the only occupants of a tract, comprising five thousand acres, whilst there are twenty-two townlands, without any inhabitants whatever, and in one hundred and eighty-four other townlands, the number of inhabited houses is limited to ten.

In each of the several years of which we have the statistical record, the following has been the number of the emigrants from County Down :—2,279 in 1851 ; 3,692 in 1852 ; 4,622 in 1853 ; 4,250 in 1854 ; 5,155 in 1855 ; 4,897 in 1856 ; 6,129 in 1857 ;



5,633 in 1858; 6,760 in 1859; 3,818 in 1860; 3,425 in 1861; 1,841 in 1862; 2,464 in 1863; 1,817 in 1864; 2,510 in 1865; 3,420 in 1866; 3,120 in 1867; 2,353 in 1868; 3,605 in 1869; 3,701 in 1870; and 785 up to April 1, 1871, thus shewing the emigration from this one County, from 1851, up to the date at which the census was taken, to have amounted to 76,176 persons, of whom 46,176 were males, and 30,000 were females.

The general surface of the County of Down presents much irregularity. Over the greatest extent, it is undulating, and abounding in circular hills, separated by intervening valleys, and plains of small dimensions. The champaigns, although pretty numerous, are not anywhere of great extent.

Towards the eastern and southern extremities the land is elevated into the mountain ranges of Slievenaggriddle, Slievicroob, and Slievedonard, and the hills, or hummocks, as they are geologically called, attain in various districts, a considerable elevation above the level of the sea. Amongst the loftiest of these hills we may mention Scrabo, Clogher, Tullyard, and Oughley, which rise to at least the height of 500 feet. Begney is 703, Garvaghy Hill 671, and Cave Hill, to the south-east of Loughbrickland, 589 feet, in altitude. In the vicinity of Holywood, the Holywood Hills have Carrowreagh, Carngaver, and Helen's Tower, for their loftiest points, rising respectively to the height of 580, 720, and 479 feet.

In the Irish language three words are applied to elevated ranges of land, viz.—Sliabh or Slieve, Cnoc or Knock, and Beann, pronounced Ben, and usually written Ben or Bin. The first properly implies a mountain, the second a hill, and the third a pinnacle, although, ultimately, they have all come to designate a mountain. As an exemplification of all three terms used in this sense, we may instance Slievicroob, Bengan, one of the Mourne range, and Knocklayd, (Cnockleithed), signifying the broad hill, in the County of Antrim. In Ireland Beann is less frequently applied to a mountain than Slieve, although in Scotland this term usually denotes the loftiest ranges, as Benlomond, Benledi, and Benann.

The high grounds about Downpatrick range as follows:—The hill eastward of Gallows Hill is 303, Slievegran 293, and Struell Hill 270 feet in height.

The Slievenagriddle mountains form a ridge rising into five or six pinnacles, of which a distinct view may be obtained on the road from Downpatrick to Strangford. Slievenagriddle is 414 feet, and the adjoining summit, 415 feet high. Castlemohan mountain has an altitude of 426 feet.

In the Ards, Ballywhite and Ballyhenry Hills, are respectively 339, and 262 feet, high. The Slievicroob mountains cover a plateau of about ten square miles, lying to the north-east of the Slievedonard range. Slievicroob rises to an altitude of 1,755 feet. The other principal mountains, in this district, are Monahoor 1,499, Slievenisky 1,408, Cratlive 1,416, Slievenaboley 1,069, Deehomet 1,050, Binian 803, Slievegaran 1,293 feet, respectively, in height.

Of the Mourne mountains, which extend from the Bay of Dundrum westerly, towards the Lough of Carlingford, at Rostrevor, a distance of about eighteen miles, the most elevated is Slievedonard, situated at the eastern extremity of the range.

The Mourne mountains were anciently termed Beanna Boirche, or the Peaks of Boirche, after a shepherd of Ross, King of Ulster, in the third century. The district subsequently acquired the tribe name of Mughdorna or Mourna, from the Sept of the Macmahons who settled there. The following are the respective heights of the Slievedonard range:—

Slieve Donard	...	...	...	2,796 feet
Slieve More	...	...	...	2,443 "
Slieve Corragh	...	...	...	2,512 "
Slieve Snaven	...	...	...	1,053 "
Slieve Bearnagh	...	...	...	2,394 "
Slieve Bed	...	...	...	2,384 "
Chimney Rock Mountain	...	...	...	2,152 "
Hen Mountain	...	...	..	1,187 "
Slieve Bingian	...	...	...	2,449 "

Finlieve	...	...	...	1,868 feet.
Slieve Muck South	...	...	...	1,931 „
Butler Mountain	...	...	...	2,137 „
Slieve Muck North	...	...	...	2,198 „
Pigeon Mountain	...	...	...	1,735 „
Eagle Mountain	...	...	...	2,084 „
Knockrhie	...	...	...	1,013 „
Slievedockaragh	...	...	...	1,557 „
Slieve Naglogh	...	...	...	1,415 „
Cleomach	...	...	...	1,257 „
White, or Cock Mountain	...	...	...	1,667 „
Rostrevor Mountain (Slieve Bane)	...	...	...	1,600 „

The ancient name of Slieve Donard was Slieve Slaing, so named from a son of Partholanus, who, according to the ancient chronicle, was buried here. At one time it was called Mount Malby, in honour of Sir Nicholas Malby, one of the generals serving under Queen Elizabeth, a name which has long given way to that of Slieve Donard.

The term Donard is derived from Domangard, a disciple of St. Patrick, who, according to the old chronicles, spent his life as a hermit on this mountain, where, as we are told in the Martyrology of Fanlaght, he terminated his life.

The water shed of the County, on the south and east, is effected by the small streams of the Annalong, Kilkeel, White Water, and Causeway Water, flowing from the Mourne Mountains, through the parish of Kilkeel to the sea, by the Shimna on the Iveagh side of the ridge, running into Dundrum Bay, and by Ballinahinch river; whilst the district, on the west, is drained by the Lagan and the Bann, and that lying between the sea and its source, by the Newry or Clanrye river. In the Ards, the surplus waters are carried either into the Lough of Strangford or the sea, by several streams of little magnitude.

The Bann has its origin in the Deer's Meadow, on the northern declivity of Slieve Muck Mountain, at an altitude of 1467 feet, not far south of the Eight-mile Bridge, where it becomes a consider-

able stream, and runs in a serpentine direction nearly two miles to the eastward of Rathfriland, passing under M'Cay's Bridge. It then follows a north-westerly course by Banbridge, Hall's Mill, Tullylish, Gilford, Portadown, and thence by the Bann Foot Ferry, to Lough Neagh. Throughout this distance of about thirty-five miles, it is called the Upper Bann, receiving the appellation of the Lower Bann, after emerging from Lough Neagh, in its course to the sea below Coleraine.

Throughout this long tract, there was not a single bridge in 1690, and now there are six of these structures built with stone, including those of Kate's Bridge, Gilford and Banbridge, besides several made of wood, within four miles of Banbridge alone. The course of the river is, in the County of Down, nearly as far as Portadown.

The mills and bleach-greens on the Bann are both extensive and numerous, although liable to be flooded in winter, and stopped by drought in summer. To remedy these defects, Mr. Fairbairn, the eminent engineer, many years ago, advised the construction of three reservoirs, one to be placed at Lough Island Reavy, another at Corbet Lough, and a third at Deer's Meadow. The sum of the supply to be furnished by the three reservoirs was estimated at 558,831,240 cubic feet, which, united with the water of the river course, would constitute a force equal to 2,800 horse power, with the great advantage of costing only one-fifth of the expense, at which an equivalent amount of steam could be provided. The reservoirs at Loughisland Reavy, and Corbet Lough, have been completed, the former alone more than quadrupling the mill-power on the river, but that projected at the Deer's Meadow has not been constructed. On account of the number of mills and bleach-greens established in its course, the Bann is described by Sir Robert Kane, as the most fully economized river in Ireland.

The Lagan river, although surpassed by the Bann, as a bleaching and manufacturing stream, is more important in a commercial

\* Harris : Ancient and Modern State of the County of Down.

point of view, from the fact of the great seaport of Belfast being situated at its outlet. There are very early references to this river, which is called by Ptolemy the Logia, as the Vinderius of that writer, may be traced to Vinderin, the head of a river, and is probably rather applicable to the Bay of Carrickfergus, than to the Lagan. Harris says the mouth of a bay is called Lagan, the appellation being afterwards extended to the whole river. In the Life of St. Colman, it is referred to under the name Locha, on the north side of which that prelate is stated to have founded a church and monastery at Dromore. Joyce deduces the name from Lag.\* *i. e.*, a hollow in a hill, occurring in some part of its course, and, it may be added, that the term Lagan or Lagean, signifying a level country, is still applied to the flat ground lying along the course of a river.

The Lagan rises on the north-eastern declivity of Slieve Croob, at an elevation of 1,250 feet, in two small streams, which unite at a distance of about two miles, to the south-east of Dromore, through which the river passes, under the old stone bridge in the centre of the town, and then under a new bridge erected a little lower down. In its further course it is augmented by sundry small streams, and it runs in succession under the bridges of Gilhall, Donacloney, Gihon, Magheralin, Spencer, the Maze, the Warren, the Wooden, Drum, Shaw's, Albert, and Queen's Bridges, emptying itself into the Lough of Belfast, after a tortuous course of about thirty miles.

It forms the boundary between Down and Antrim, in the latter part of its route. It is navigable for some miles above Belfast, and lighters, principally carrying coal, ply from that port, the navigation being for some miles by the river, and afterwards by the canal into Lough Neagh, and thence by the river Bann and Newry canal to Warrenpoint, thus effecting a complete water-portage between the Lough of Belfast and the Bay of Carlingford.

Ballinahinch river is correctly described by Harris as arising

\* Origin and History of Irish Names of Places, p. 418.



from four several sources. The first issuing from Lough Aghery, in the parish of Dromore, subsequently unites with the second, which rises in the parish of Annahilt, and after passing through Lough Erne, is joined by the two other branches, one coming from the townland of Drumlough, which is also in the parish of Dromore, and the other from the parish of Hillsborough. These united streams form a considerable river, which takes a course to the southward and eastward, near the town of Ballinahinch, past Kilmore and Annacloy, finally assuming the name of the Quoile, and, after running a course of about seventeen miles, falling into the Lough of Strangford. Harris says, that after reaching Annacloy, it formerly took the name of the Annacloy river. The principal bridges in its course are the Black Bridge, Armstrong's Bridge, Annacloy Bridge, and the Bridges at Ballinahinch and the Quoile. It is important as a tidal stream, or what Boate would call a portable river, as it affords water carriage to the quays erected near the Quoile Bridge, to which it admits vessels of considerable tonnage, laden with coals, iron, timber, and other merchandise for the town of Downpatrick, which is about a mile distant. The larger timber vessels, however, in the foreign trade, are obliged to discharge their cargoes further down the stream.

In several of the older maps, the Ballinahinch river is erroneously represented as falling into the Bay of Dundrum.

The Newry or Clanrye River rises not far from Rathfriland, running at first to the westward, then bending to the north, it passes under Glenny, Hawkins, Crown, Sheep, and Newry bridges, and, after a short course, in a southerly direction, it falls into the Lough of Carlingford. Between Newry and Warrenpoint this river is tidal and navigable.

Such are the principal rivers, but there are, besides, many other brooks and streams in the county, not properly deserving of the appellation of rivers. Amongst these we may specify the Urrogh or Whitewater, the Annalong, the Hunoloc, the Kilkeel, the Cusher, the Conn's Water, the Blackstaff, the Esler, and the Ravarnet, formerly termed the Garricloth River. The Blackstaff runs along



the boundary of the parish of Ardquin, and past Kirkiston Castle, anciently forming the separating line of the great "Ardes." The Hunoloc is formed by two streams, issuing from Slieve Neu, which unite and fall into the Bay of Dundrum, near Newcastle. It is now termed the Shimna. The Slidderyford water also falls into the Bay of Dundrum, into which the waters of another Blackstaff, sometimes called the Annadorn, are likewise discharged.

The canals which, in part, traverse the county, are the Newry and Lagan canals.

The first, which was opened in 1741, commences at its junction with the Bann river, at Whitecourt, near Gilford, from which it is carried past Newry to Fathom, on the bay of Carlingford. The navigation of the canal and river united is about eighteen miles. The average breadth of the canal is forty feet, at the surface, and it will admit vessels of fifty tons burthen. The summit level is about seventy-seven feet above the surface of the sea, and about twenty-two feet above Lough Neagh. The locks are fifteen in number, twenty-two feet wide, in the clear, about forty-four feet long, and in depth varying from twelve to thirteen feet and a-half. The canal was constructed by the direction of commissioners, under the provisions of the Act 3 George II., having been commenced in 1730, and finished in 1800. The cost was defrayed, in part, by public grants, and partly by duties imposed by statute, on coaches, chaises, chairs, and various other kinds of carriages in Dublin; and on cards, dice, and gold or silver plate, made or imported into the kingdom. The primary object in constructing the canal was to complete the water-carriage, by which the coal of the County Tyrone could be transmitted to Dublin. From the year 1802 to the year 1817, the amount of toll received was about £28,000, and the total expenditure about £70,000. In the succeeding ten years the gross receipts were over £25,000, and the expenditure nearly £17,000. The management is now under the control of the Board of Works.

The Lagan canal has its commencement at Lough Neagh, and

passes adjacent to Moira, Hillsborough, and Lisburn, to its junction with the Lagan river, at the point where it becomes navigable, in its course to Belfast. The Lagan navigation was commenced in 1755, the canal having cost more than £100,000 ; but the difficulties of keeping it in repair, and other causes, have rendered it hitherto an unprofitable undertaking. The summit level towards Lough Neagh is about 112 feet above the level of the sea.

These canals are entirely appropriated to the carriage of goods, and especially of coals.

**BAYS.**—The bays on the Down shores are—Carrickfergus, Bangor, Ballyholme, Cloghy, Knockelder, Quintin, Millin, Strangford, Ballyhornan, Sheepland, Ardglass, Killough, Dundrum, Newcastle, William's Harbour, Green Harbour, Jenkins' Port, Glassdrumman Port, Springwell Port, Arthur's Port, Port of Annalong, Wick Port, and Samuel's Port. Within Carlingford Lough are Rostrevor Quay, Warrenpoint, and Carlingford, the last being situated in the County Louth. Inside the Lough of Strangford are—Barhall Bay, Portaferry Quay, Ballywhite, and Marlfield Bays, Kircubbin Pier, Bloody Burn Bay, Killyleagh Port, the Quoile Quay, Audley's Roads, and Castleward Bay, Strangford Harbour, and Kilclief, and Millquarter Bays.

There are several life-boats on the coast, the stations of which are at Groomsport, Ballywalter, Tyrella, Newcastle, and Greencastle. Many years ago, Mr. Nimmo suggested numerous improvements of the harbours and piers along the coast of Down, but only some of them have been carried out, and much improvement is still necessary, both for utility and safety.

The Fourth Report of the Commissioners of Irish Fisheries contains good charts of the harbour of Strangford Lough, Ardglass, Killough, Bangor, and the Bay of Dundrum, executed by Mr. Nimmo. There are also most accurate charts of Strangford Lough and its adjacencies, from the surveys of Captain Richard Hoskyn, R. N., who spent several years in examining the locality, where he was well known and popular, and died lamented, in the year 1873.

The principal lakes, or as they are more usually termed loughs, either wholly or partly in the county, are, Lough Neagh, anciently Lough Eagh, and the loughs of Carlingford, Strangford, and Belfast, described in another part of the work.

Lough Neagh, a fresh-water lake, merely touches the county of Down at one point, about a mile in breadth, on the north-west side, the counties of Antrim, Tyrone, Armagh, and Londonderry forming its other boundaries. It is the largest lake in Ireland, covering about 100,000 acres, and larger than any fresh-water lake in Great Britain. It is about twenty English miles in length, from north-west to south-east, and about half that breadth. The smaller loughs, some of them of considerable extent, are numerous, but mostly destitute of picturesque beauty. They abound in certain kinds of fish, especially trout, eels, pike, and perch. In the deeper lakes the pike and trout are large and well flavoured, but no means are taken to obtain any regular supply, the fishing being only occasional, and practised merely for private amusement. A number of large ponds, some very deep, and frequently termed land-loughs, are scattered over the county in different directions. Some of them have been drained and gradually filled up, and have nearly or altogether disappeared, only leaving morasses to point out their sites. For instance, Loughadian, in the parish of Ahaderg, now consists merely of marsh and turf. Lough Horne, too, in the parish of Newry, has become filled up to the extent of eleven feet, and its southern portion is merely a quagmire. Other examples of this gradual transformation may be seen in Lough Doo, in Castleboy, and Lough Cock, in Drumgooland. The extensive marsh adjacent to Killough, and locally termed the Stron, was not one of these landloughs, but a shallow bay, reclaimed from the sea. The lakes in the county cover comparatively a small surface, and the result is, that the atmosphere is drier than in many other counties.

The following list includes all the principal lakes in the county, most of which will be found laid down in the accompanying map :—

Erne	Carriquillian
Ballycrune	Heron
Reagh	Clay North
Loughbrickland	Clay South
Lough Shark	Begny
Ballyalloly	Shannagh
Greenan	Cove
Monteith's Lough	Pollramer
Loughaghery	Mann
Drummiller	Loughinisland
Ballyfinragh	Drumaroad
Ballyroney	Burren
Hunshigo	Dunbeg
Ballyhuley	The Long Lough
Cowey	M'Auley's Lough
Boley	Henney
Ballydugan	Creen
Magheralagan	Lough Dinny
Lake in Hollymount De-	Kernan
mesne	Carrowvanny
Lake in Seaforde Demesne,	Drumanah
Ballykilbeg	Lough Keelan
Drum	Lough Mooney, and
Lough in Hillsborough Park	Three Ballyward Lakes.
Lough Island Reavy	and Altnadua

The several towns and villages in the county are adverted to in other parts of the work.

**SPRING, WELL, AND RIVER WATERS.**—The County of Down is abundantly supplied with water, both from numerous springs, and various loughs, rivers, brooks, and streams, but its quality varies from different causes.

In addition to the chemical ingredients of carbonic acid, oxygen, nitrogen, and ammonia, the several waters contain in solution, varying proportions of mineral or solid matter, as lime, iron, and magnesia, the amount of which is dependent on the nature of the soil

from which they spring. Of these mineral ingredients, a small quantity exists in the river waters. Waters are termed soft and hard, with reference to the quantity of solid matters which they hold in solution, and when these are in excess, or when different gaseous matters are present, they are called mineral waters, and are employed for medicinal purposes. The quantity of solid material held in solution, in the ordinary well waters of the county, may vary from about 10, to 100 grains in the gallon. In lime-stone districts the solid matter in water is considerable, from the solution of the carbonate and phosphate of that mineral, but in granite countries the water is comparatively pure, a very trifling quantity of the granite being dissolved. Some waters also contain a considerable quantity of vegetable matter.

The following analyses, made by Professor Hodges, of Belfast, will illustrate the great difference in the proportion of solid matters in various specimens.

	Grs.
Water of a stream near Rostrevor, an imperial gallon contained of solid matter ...	10
— a stream supplying a flax-pool at Moneyrea, ...	10
— a well at Shannon Grove, ...	11
— a pump do. ...	28
— a well at Stranmillis, near Belfast ...	60
— do. Irish Street, Downpatrick ...	140
— do. (St. Dillon's Well), Downpatrick ...	40
— do. Whitehouse, near Belfast ...	14½
— do. Belfast ...	127

In a sanitary point of view, the quality of the water, which we use for domestic purposes, is of great moment, and the use of very hard water should be avoided, as well as any polluted by the admixture of deleterious matters, whether vegetable, mineral, or gaseous, derived from defective drainage, or other causes of contamination, which require much greater attention, than has yet been given to the means necessary for their purification: and it is particularly to be observed, that many of the old wells in Down-

patrick, and some other places in the county, are largely thus deteriorated. Spring waters differ also in temperature, although not to any material extent.

According to Dr. Hodges, waters from the granite districts of Mourne present a striking contrast to those from the clay slates of the North of Down. Thus, specimens from near Newry frequently contained no more than about six grains of solid matters, while wells in the neighbourhood of Downpatrick gave from thirty to forty grains, per gallon. As examples of the composition of some of the drinking waters in the North of Ireland the following analyses are given :—

	1. Omagh, Tyrone.	2. Ballywalter, Down.	3. Shrigly, Killyleagh, Down.	4. Cromac, Belfast.
Total solid matters per gallon ...	76.30	38.60	54.60	17.50
Consisting of mineral and saline matters ...	49.40	26.50	33.60	16.10
Organic and Volatile matters ...	26.90	12.10	21.00	1.40
Common salt per gallon	26.00	.84	.11	5.52
Hardness ...	25°	18°	22	9
One million parts yield—				
free ammonia ...	0.10	0.02	0.01	0.005
Albuminoid ammonia ...	0.15	0.12	0.08	9.939

The water No. 1 is that which is commonly used in the town of Omagh. Its taste is disagreeably hard and brackish, and analysis shows it to contain sewage impurities. The large amount also of calcareous matters, which it contains, renders its use objectionable. The specimen No. 2 is a hard water, containing a considerable amount of nitrogenous matters. No. 3 is also a hard water, but containing only a small amount of nitrogen. No. 4 is the composition of a specimen of water from a spring in Cromac district, Belfast, which affords a striking difference in its characters to other waters.\*

\* The waters from numerous sources used in the town of Banbridge have



Mineral or medicinal waters differ in density, temperature, taste, smell and composition from the ordinary waters of the county.

Numerous waters of this description have long been known to exist in the County of Down, and they may be divided into two classes, viz., the chalybeate and the sulphureous.

Chalybeate waters of various composition and degrees of strength are especially abundant, and may be found in most parts of the county. At an earlier day, a number of them had acquired a temporary celebrity for their medicinal properties, and many of them are described at length by Harris and Rutty, including the springs occurring at Ardmillan, Killaghee, and Grangee, with others in the barony of Lower Ards, and in the vicinity of Donaghadee, "Kirkdonnell," Magheralin, Dromore, Newry, Killough, and Inishargy.

The list might be extended by including Terkelly, near Rathfriland, and a spring in the parish of Ballykinler, near the bay of Dundrum, which was analysed by the late Dr. Hunter, of Bryansford, with more than one water of strong ferruginous properties in the immediate vicinity of the Maze Course, first referred to, in the work of the author on the Watering places of Ireland.

Waters of this class are very easily recognised by their peculiar ochrey deposit, which consists of the protoxide of iron, changed into a peroxide, by oxygen derived from the atmosphere, and especially by the purple precipitate which is caused by the addition of prussiate of potash, or the blue precipitate thrown down by the addition of gall-nuts in powder, tincture, or infusion.

Sulphureous waters, occur at Tralee, Donegal, Swanlinbar, and Lisdoonvarna, but they are rare in the County of Down, and there are none of any importance, except the spa in the vicinity of Balli-

been submitted to analysis by Professor Cameron, of Dublin, who reports very unfavourably upon the great majority of them. The solid matters per imperial gallon varied from 1234 grains to the enormous amount of 12,037 grains. Only one or two of the specimens were reported to be of fair quality.

nahinch, of which we shall give a detailed account, as being the only one now resorted to in this county.

The Ballinahinch Spa is situated about two miles from the town of Ballinahinch, and about twelve miles from Belfast, with which it is connected by the County of Down Railway. The medicinal properties of the water, discovered fortuitously, gradually attracted notice, and attention being paid to it, by Sir John Rawdon, ancestor to the present Marquis of Hastings, its reputation soon extended, and its character was established when the works of Harris and Rutty were published, more than a century and a half ago ; and, unlike almost all the other Irish mineral waters, some of which were at one time of great celebrity, it has never lost the reputation it acquired, and it is, consequently, still much resorted to for its healing virtues.

There are two wells, nearly adjacent to each other, viz., the so-called Chalybeate, and the Sulphureous Well. The Chalybeate spring was discovered at a period long subsequently to the other, and its value, as a tonic, was highly esteemed. Many years ago, however, the writer of the present work, after repeated and careful examination, was unable to detect the slightest trace of iron in the water, and the absence of this metal was confirmed by the analysis of Sir Robert Kane. In his report it is stated that " The Ballinahinch Spring, called Chalybeate, has no iron, being nothing more than ordinary water, containing lime, sulphuric, muriatic, and carbonic acids, and these in smaller quantities than many of the ordinary springs of the county."

Some iron, however, is contained in the sulphureous water a few yards distant, and it is probable, therefore, that the spring, which at one time was unquestionably of a chalybeate quality, may have been directed, by some fortuitous circumstance, in another direction, and by a proper search it might, possibly, be re-discovered.

The Sulphureo-Chalybeate Spring rises from a white, marl-like substance, overlaid by blue clay and a surface of peat.

The composition of the water, according to the analysis of Sir

Robert Kane, is as follows :—10,000 grains evaporated to dryness, gave a brown residue of 3.21 grains, which consisted of—

Muriatic Acid	...	...	...	...	0.18
Sulphuric Acid	...	...	...	...	0.24
Soda	...	...	...	...	0.35
Protoxide of Iron	...	...	...	...	0.15
Lime	...	...	...	...	0.35
Carbonic Acid	...	...	...	...	0.39
Organic Matter	...	...	...	...	1.55
					<hr/>
					3.21

The specific gravity was 1000.539, and the colour a yellowish brown, derived from the organic matter of turf, which it held in solution.

The existence of sulphuretted hydrogen gas is indicated at once by the peculiar odour, resembling that of rotten eggs; and the presence of sulphur may be detected by the usual tests. The temperature of the water is about 50 degrees of Fahrenheit, and the flavour disagreeable, although the *apres gout* is not so. The solvent of the iron in this, as in other Irish chalybeate waters, is carbonic acid, that metal, in the form of sulphate, not being known to exist in any spring in this country. The medicinal virtues of these waters are attributable to the sulphuretted hydrogen and iron combined. They are principally used internally, but they may also be employed in the form of either a topical or general bath. Their virtues have been recognised in different diseases characterised by torpidity, relaxation, and débility, and requiring a tonic and stimulant remedy. They have been found productive of much benefit in various forms of cutaneous eruption, dyspepsia, chronic hepatic disease, general debility, and depressing nervous affections.

The months of June, July, August, and September are the seasons most usually selected for a visit to the Ballinahinch Spa.

The only saline aperient, to be found in the county, is sea-

water, which is occasionally used for medicinal purposes, and sometimes not without benefit. Sea-water varies in temperature, according to the season and climate, and freezes at about 27 degrees of Fahrenheit, and it also varies in the amount of saline ingredients which it contains. The benefits arising from sea-water, used for bathing are universally acknowledged, and the places especially resorted to for the purpose are, Bangor, Holywood, Newcastle, Warrenpoint, Rostrevor, Donaghadee, Ardglass, and Dundrum.

TIDES.—“Up to the period of Captain Beechey’s survey, the set or stream of the tides in the Irish sea had been greatly misunderstood, owing to the association of the turn of the stream, with the rise and fall of the water on the shore ; but his observations have shown that, notwithstanding the varieties of the times of high water throughout the channel, the turn of the stream is simultaneous, and that the northern and southern streams, commence and end in all parts, practically speaking, at *the same* time, and as that time happens to correspond with the time of high and low water on the shore, at Morecambe Bay, the point where the opposite tides, coming round the extremities of Ireland, finally meet, it is only necessary to know the times of high and low water at Morecambe Bay, to determine the hour when the stream of either tide will commence or terminate.”\* The tide enters the Irish Sea by two channels, of which Carnsore Point and Pembroke are the limits of the southern one, and Rathlin Island and the Mull of Cantyre are, respectively, the boundaries on the south and north. Entering between the points named, simultaneously with the southern stream passing the Tuskar, the main body sweeps by S. to E., and takes nearly the general direction of the channel, midway between the Mull of Galloway and the Copeland Islands, one portion, flowing towards the Point of Ayre, and the other towards Contrary Head, and, then uniting with the southern stream, it flows forward to Morecambe Bay. The left portion, of

\* Beechey’s Report on the Tides, 1846.

the northern incoming stream, passes by the Maidens, Muck Island, and Blackhead, to the Lough of Belfast, setting up which, it splits at Grey Point, one portion running up by Garmoyle, and the other turning back by Bangor, Groomsport, and Orloch point, and, then blending with the general stream, which has come from the Maidens, passes with it, through the sounds of the Cope-land Isles, along the coast by the South Rock. It then runs on towards St. John's Point, off which the stream, like that coming from the southward, "expends itself in a large space of still water," which remains undisturbed, although pressed upon by streams coming from various quarters. Such is the general course of the in-going tide, from which the ebbing stream does not materially vary. Of course, in all parts of the channel, at the headlands, where abrupt counter streams or eddies begin, about two hours after the offing streams, they increase with the strength of the tide, and occasion races or overfalls at various points. That very curious part of the channel, in which still water always prevails, is situated between the Isle of Man and Carlingford. No tide is here observable, and the only remarkable phenomenon is the water rising and falling, without having any perceptible stream. This space of still water is of a circular form, and marked by a bottom of blue mud. The set of the tides, as well as that portion of the channel in which no flow is perceptible, are clearly illustrated in the Tide Chart of Captain F. W. Beechey, R. N., which accompanies his Survey Maps.—Various maps, illustrating the geography of the County of Down, have been published from time to time, and they may be consulted in her Majesty's State Paper Office, at Whitehall, in Trinity College, Dublin, and the British Museum. Of the last collection, a catalogue has been drawn up by Mr. John Holmes, and we give a list of some of the most important of them, as they afford considerable information regarding the geographical arrangements in past ages:—

A very rough and incorrect map of the north and east part of  
Ulster. 1570.

A generale description of Ulster.



A neatly-executed map of Ulster. About 1603.

A map of south-eastern part of Ulster. The same date.

The provinces in Ireland and their several counties.

Williamson's map.

Havens and Bays on the coast of Irelande.

Principal llandes in Irelande.

Rivers for the most part, and where they enter into the sea.

The moste of the principal loughes in Irelande.\*

The maps of Naden and Jobson. Published in 1590.

First rough map (1567) of the island called "Hireland."

A map of Ireland, carefully drawn by John Goghe. 1567.

Sketch map of Ireland. 1558.

Plan of Belfast Bay and the surrounding county, about 1590, on which are drawn large woods near the town of "Belfaste," with this note:—"Alonge this river bi ye space of 26 inches groweth mucche woods, as well okes for timber as hother woodde wiche maie be brought in the baie of Cragfargus with bote or by draye."

A curious plan of the town of Newry, with notes in Burghley's autograph, containing the new castell in the centre of the town. The name of Patrick Cooley is erased, and that of Sr. H. Bagnall inserted in its place. "A lytell orcharde behind the castle, and not far off a place for the cattell by night."

A map of coast of Ireland from Dublin Bay to Carrickfergus. About 1572.

Map of the coast of County Down, and part of that of Louth, from Carlingford to Strangford, of the supposed date 1566, with the following note by the Artist:—"Whereas any wodds doe sygnifye in these platts ye und<sup>r</sup> woodds, as has all holyc, oller, eld<sup>r</sup>, thorne crabtre, byrch, and sutche lyk, but no great hoke, neyther great byldyng tymbr, and the mountayne topps, ys bayrane, only for ferres and small thanes.

\* Ulst. Journal of Archæology. Vol. 3 & 4.



Map, being an actual survey of the county of Down. Drawn by Oliver Sloane in 1739.

Vale Royal of England—A map of the Isle of Man, with part of Downe and Antrim, Claneboy, Clanbrassil, the North of the Ards. 1656.

Mercator's Atlas—A map of Ultonia Oriental. On these maps are set down about the site of Portaferry, a place marked "Tharde" o-centre "Meliray, south," "The Blackstaff," "The Monyl in the Ards," "Ultonia Oriental," "Talbot's Court in the Ards," and "The Great Ward at Ardglass."

A map of the east part of Ulster.

Lambeth Lib. 635, fol. 61-53-140.

These ancient maps are now principally objects of curiosity, the geographical distribution of the county having been laid down authoritatively, in the Ordnance Maps.

The arrangement of the County, in the usual divisions of Baronies and Parishes, with the quantity of land in each, is fully set forth in the following Table, extracted from the same source :—

#### UPPER IVEAGH—UPPER HALF.

PARISHES	Including <i>Water</i>				AREAS		
Aghaderg, Part of	...	114	1	3	...	12841	3 12
Annaclone	...	...	...	...	...	6544	1 34
Clonallan	{ <i>Fresh Water.</i>	10	0	8}	...	11560	2 23
	{ <i>Tideway.</i>	95	1	23}	...	...	...
Donaghmore	...	30	1	31	...	8388	2 13
Drumgath	...	...	...	...	...	5329	0 3
Kilbroney	...	...	...	...	...	13214	3 32
Seapatrick, Part of	...	...	...	...	...	4441	2 32
Warrenpoint	<i>Tideway,</i>	49	2	27	...	1125	0 20
Total		239	3	12	...	63446	1 9

#### UPPER IVEAGH—LOWER HALF.

Clonduff	...	...	...	...	21227	2	17
Dromara, Part of	...	23	3	29	...	8141	0 15
Drumballyroney	...	78	1	4	...	12338	2 23
Drumgooland	...	62	3	30	...	19651	0 17

Garvaghy, Part of	...	37	0	0	...	6448	2	1
Kilcoo	...	247	0	7	...	18206	2	19
Kilmegan, Part of	...	102	0	13	...	6197	0	28
Maghera	...				...	3215	3	10
Newry, Part of	...				...	878	3	31
Total		551	1	3		96305	2	1

## UPPER LECALÉ.

Ballykinler	...				...	2032	3	0
Bright	...	13	1	0	...	5615	2	21
Down	...	108	1	19	...	11636	1	13
Kilmegan, Part of	...	26	0	0	...	5996	3	29
Rathmullan & Detached Portion	...	9	0	30	...	3420	1	19
Tyrella	...				...	1997	2	32
Total		156	3	9	...	30699	2	34

## LOWER LECALÉ.

Ardglass	...				...	2022	1	34
Ballee	...				...	5716	3	31
Ballyculter & Islands	...	21	2	31	...	5469	1	25
Dunsfort & Islands	...				...	4250	1	39
Inch & Islands	...	84	3	2	...	6509	0	17
Kilclief	...				...	2427	3	0
Rathmullan (Detached Portion)	...				...	319	2	8
Saul and Islands	...	53	0	24	...	4260	2	38
Total		159	2	17	...	30976	1	32

## MOURNE.

Kilkeel and Islands	...	39	0	0	...	47887	2	7
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## UPPER CASTLEREAGH.

Blaris, Part of	...	11	2	0	...	3063	0	32
Comber, Part of	...				...	1286	0	15
Drumbeg, Part of	...	5	0	35	...	5698	1	3
Drumbo	...	17	3	14	...	9276	1	3
Killaney	...	52	3	7	...	2860	2	18
Killinchy, Part of	...	47	2	25	...	4147	2	34
Killyleagh, Part of	...				...	988	1	36
Kilmore, Part of	...	5	0	18	...	6465	3	16

Knockbreda, Part of	...	7	0	33	...	7224	3	3
Lambeg, Part of	...	14	2	20	...	1191	2	19
Saintfield	...	113	3	34	...	13333	2	26
						55536	2	5
Tideway	...				...	99	0	23
Total		375	0	9	...	55635	2	28

## LOWER CASTLEREAGH.

Bangor, Part of	...				...	4072	2	36
Comber, Part of	...	65	0	10	...	16143	0	23
Dundonald	...				...	4635	0	37
Holywood	...				...	8298	0	4
Killinchy, Part of	..				...	3281	0	17
Kilmood	...	12	2	10	...	4634	1	39
Knockbreda, Part of	...				...	1129	2	24
Newtownards	...				...	6609	3	3
Tullynakill	...				...	2930	0	34
Total		77	2	10	...	51734	1	17

## LORDSHIP OF NEWRY.

Newry, Part of	{ <i>Fresh Water</i> , 46	3	2}	...	16181	3	26
	{ <i>Tideway</i> , 31	1	7}	...			
Tideway	...			...	117	2	8
Total	195	2	17	...	16299	1	34

## KINELARTY.

Annahilt, Part of	...				...	708	0	0
Kilmegan, Part of	...				...	1793	3	37
Kilmore, Part of	...	76	2	0	...	6388	1	37
Loughinisland	...	132	1	20	...	12485	2	1
Magheradrool, Part of	...	115	2	0	...	11927	0	6
Maherahamlet	...	5	1	5	...	7022	0	25
Total		329	2	25	...	40325	0	26

## DUFFERIN.

Killinchy, Part of, and Islands	...	67	1	34	...	6440	2	17
Killyleagh, Part of, and Islands	...	159	0	13	...	10774	0	18
Total		206	2	7	...	17214	2	35

## LOWER IVEAGH—LOWER HALF.

Aghadery, Part of	...	...	1075	1	5
Annahilt, Part of	...	66 3 37	6066	0	39
Dromara, Part of	...	30 0 27	6027	2	2
Dromore	...	87 2 28	20475	1	3
Garvaghy, Part of	...	...	3807	2	30
Magheradrool, Part of	...	...	629	0	16
Magherally	...	31 2 5	5241	1	31
Seapatrick, Part of, and Detached Portion	...	...	2717	2	30
Total	216	1 17	46040	0	36

## LOWER IVEAGH—UPPER HALF.

Blaris, Part of	...	...	4810	1	27
Donaghcloney	...	...	6608	0	39
Hillsborough	...	48 2 30	4893	1	7
Magheralin, Part of	...	6 1 26	7807	0	29
Moirá	...	...	6002	0	30
Shankill, Part of, <i>L. Neagh</i>	110	3 36	1652	0	3
Tullylish	...	43 3 20	2130	2	31
Total	209	3 32	47684	0	6

## UPPER ARDS.

Ardkeen and Islands	...	25	0	20	...	4809	1	35
Ardquin and Islands	...	75	2	1	...	3044	0	38
Ballyphilip	...	14	3	32	...	4904	0	27
Ballytristan & Detached								
Portions	...	1	2	15	...	1681	3	12
Ballywalter	...				...	3013	2	16
Castleboy and Detached								
Portions	...				..	1357	1	0
Inishargy and Islands	...				...	5857	0	26
Slanes	...				...	946	1	21
St. Andrews <i>alias</i> Bally-								
halbert and Islands	...				...	4031	2	39
Total		117	0	28		29705	3	14

## LOWER ARDS.

Bangor, Part of, and								
Islands ... ..	43	0	0	...	12943	3	19	
Donaghadee ... ..	26	3	6	...	9593	0	21	
Grey Abbey and Islands				...	7689	0	35	
Newtownards, Part of ...				...	8228	0	9	
	<hr/>				<hr/>			
Total	69	3	6	...	38454	1	4	

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## CHAPTER XIX.

### Topography of the Lordship of Newry.

THE Parish of Newry comprises, in all, 18,038 acres, the greater part being in Down, in the Lordship of Newry, and the remainder in Lower Orier, and O'Nieland, West, in the County of Armagh.

Less than 1,000 acres are occupied by waste bog and tide-way, and all the residue, except a portion of mountainous district, is arable, and under an excellent system of cultivation.

The parish is bordered on the Armagh side, by the Fathom Mountains, which are mostly rocky and sterile, but Altonaveagh, signifying the glen side of the Ravens, which is within the Lordship, affords excellent pasturage, and a considerable portion of it has been even brought under cultivation.

The Lordship of Newry forms, on the western side, the boundary of the granite range, in which syenite, porphyry and granite occur in all their varieties, and the latter which is traversed by windykes, contains beautiful specimens of zeolite, and, in some places, quartz and oxide of manganese occur.

In a license granted to Sir Arthur Bagnal, in the fifth year of James I., to alienate the Manor of "Newrie," and the Lordship and Manor of Mourne, the boundary of the latter is described as extending in breadth, by estimation, two miles from the house of O'Cassie, called Aughincossie, to the sea, and in length, ten miles, to wit, from the port, or river, of Carlingford, to the water called St. Patrick's water, otherwise Owen Patricke, held by him in capite, by knight-service.

The only town in the parish is Newry, much the largest portion



of which lies within the confines of the County of Down, the remainder,\* termed Ballybought, being situate in Armagh.

Crown Rath, on the road to Rathfriland, is a very perfect specimen of that description of structure. The earthwork is 112 feet high, and nearly circular, measuring at the base 585 feet in circumference; the top is flat and of an oblong form. The rath is surrounded by a fosse 20 feet broad, and 10 feet deep, and on its south side, there is a square platform, girt by an entrenchment, the glacis of which declines towards the ancient ford of the river.

The Newry water, which was anciently termed the Clanrye river, flows in a south-easterly course, through a district studded with villas, to the Bay of Carlingford. Formerly it filled the entire valley from Warrenpoint to Newry, but many years ago, a rampart was constructed, which confines its waters to a channel, about one hundred feet wide.

The principal mansions in the vicinity of Newry are, Greenwood Park (Mrs. Ross Thompson), Loughorne House (Mr. Martin), Mount Kearney (Mr. Gordon), Sheepbridge House (Mr. James Gordon), Barkstone Lodge (Mr. Hutcheson Boyd), Carmeen House (Mr. M'George), Eden (Mr. George Gray), Ashgrove (Mr. Joshua Magee), Templegowran House (Mr. Grant), Glenville (Mr. William Glenney), Cairnhill (Mr. Wallace), and a few others. Creeve, the residence of Mr. John Ellis, derives its name from the Irish Craebh, which signifies a wide-spreading tree.

At the north end of a little lake called Derryleckagh are the ruins of the "Chappel" of Templegowran, *i. e.*, the Goats' Chapel, and closely adjacent, there is an old churchyard of the same name.

The small hamlet of Greenisland is in this parish. It contains about ten or twelve houses, chiefly tenanted by shipwrights. Shipbuilding was formerly carried on here, to some extent, and small crafts, yachts and lighters are still built and repaired. It has a small dock and wharf, to which the Newry steamers used to come.

\* Reilly's Harris, p. 109.

The earliest intimation we have regarding Newry is in the *Annals* of the Four Masters, where reference is made to a monastery founded by St. Patrick, and to a yew tree planted there, by the hands of the Saint himself; whence was derived the Latin name of "*Monasterium de viridi ligno*." This monastery was built in honour of the Virgin Mary, long prior to the Cistercian Abbey, "*Nevoracense Monasterium*," founded by Maurice Macloughlin, which was not erected until the year 1157, and placed under the invocation of St. Mary, St. Patrick, and St. Benedict. The charter of foundation given by that monarch, conveying various denominations of land, was subsequently renewed and enlarged, by Hugo de Lacy, Earl of Ulster, by whom the head of the house was made a mitred abbot. In 1262, the monastery was burned, with all its books and furniture, together with the yew tree before mentioned, which was stated to have been then about 700 years old. The credibility of this statement has been questioned on the ground of the age of the tree. This, however, affords no sufficient foundation for doubt, for these are yew trees, in various places in England, known to be much more than seven centuries old, and we are told by Decandolle, that of all European trees, the yew attains to the greatest age, the specimens at Fortingal, in Perthshire, and at Fountain Abbey, being all probably over two thousand years old.

Some difference of opinion has existed as to the derivation of the name Newry, or the Newries, as it was frequently called, up to a comparatively recent period. It was anciently termed Jubhar cuin-tragha (pronounced Yure-kintra), signifying the yew tree at the head of the Strand. In after times, the name was shortened to Jubhar, and thence, with the article *n* prefixed, came the name of Newry.

Harris, in his history, translates Ybar cintracta as the flourishing head of a yew tree, but Keating, more correctly, as the yew at the head of the Strand.

The abbot of this monastery exercised episcopal authority over the Lordships of Newry and Mourne. The jurisdiction is at

present transferred to the trustees of the lay proprietor, the Earl of Kilmorey. The hereditary abbot, or his representative, in addition to various other privileges, possessed the full authority of an episcopal court. No writ could be legally served by the sheriff of the county, within his jurisdiction, without permission, although the right was not usually insisted on, and never exercised. By virtue of the patent, the abbot was entitled to the tithes of Newry, and the rectory of Mourne. The powers exercised by the Earl of Kilmorey came to him by descent from Sir Nicholas Bagnal, to whom the abbey was granted by King Edward II., as his co-heir in the female line. The official seal represents a mitred abbot, in his albe, sitting in a chair, supported by two yew trees, with the inscription:—

SIGILL : CVRIAE : IVRISDICTIONIS :

EXEMPT : DE VIRIDI LIGNO :

AL<sup>o</sup> NEWRY.

It is said the Lordship of Newry anciently claimed the privileges of a palatinate, but it has recently been subject to the sheriff of the county. At a period as early as the close of the thirteenth century, a college consisting of a warden and vicars choral had been established in Newry. The patent granted to Sir Nicholas Bagnal, on account of his excellent services as Marshal

of Ireland, expresses the conveyance only in general terms, but the letters issued by James I. to "Arthur Bagnal, Esq., convey the town of Newry, with all the demesne lands, the Manor of Greencastle, the Lordship or territory of Mourne, with two islands in the main sea, the Manor of Carlingford, with the abbey and its appurtenances, together with the lands of Cooley, the ferry between Carlingford and Killowen, the anchorage of Carlingford, the territory of O'Meath, and the wreckage on the several properties. The exemption of Newry and Mourne from the Bishop's jurisdiction, is claimed on the ground of their having been episcopal, before the Reformation, yet in the Royal Visitation Book of 1615, *Nova Ripa*, alias *Nieu Rie*, is among the parishes set down as being under the jurisdiction of the See of Dromore. Marriage licenses and probates of wills are granted by Lord Kilmorey's authority, under the monastic seal.

The ancient valuation of the abbey was twenty marks, and the tenths two marks. Part of the old abbey still remains in Castle-street, and is occupied as dwelling houses. The walls and foundations were of immense thickness, and large quantities of human bones have been dug up in the vicinity\* from time to time.

There were two chapels of ease in the parish, at the period of the Reformation, called *Templeigeran* and *Castalanagan*, the former of which remains, with its cemetery, in the townland of *Derry-leckagh*, and is marked in the ordnance map as *Templegowran*. There are three ancient graveyards in the townlands of *Lisserboy*, *Ouley*, and *Greenan*, at the extremities of the parish.

The exempt jurisdiction was a very peculiar institution. It contained the churches of *Annalong*, *Kilkeel*, *Kilmegan*, *Kilcoo*, and the churches of *St. Patrick* and *St. Mary* in *Newry*, together with two detached townlands, viz., *Grange O'Nieland*, near *Armagh*, and *Shanaghan*, in the County of Down.

At the Reformation no steps were ever taken to abolish or interfere with the jurisdiction, which was confirmed to the abbot by

\* Reeves, page 119, and *Newry Magazine*, vol. i., page 11.

a patent of Queen Elizabeth, and in an act passed in the reign of George IV. the authority of Lord Kilmorey and his heirs was expressly acknowledged. The churches and chapelries, with the townland of Shanaghan, have been recently annexed to the diocese of Down, Connor and Dromore, and in case of severance of these sees, they are to remain attached to Dromore, and the townlands of Derry and Grange O'Neiland to the archdiocese of Armagh, in which county they are situated.

The Church of St. Patrick was formerly a chapel of ease to St. Mary's, the patronage being in the Earl of Kilmorey, as abbot. The adjoining yard forms the Protestant burying-ground. St. Patrick's Church is thus referred to by Harris: "At the end of the town there is a good church, on an eminence, 90 feet, by 28 feet in the clear, exclusive of a vestry, which was the place of sepulture of the Bagnal family, the church having been erected by Sir Nicholas Bagnal, in 1578. It was ruined in 1641, but renovated after the restoration, and again repaired in 1720, and 1729.

The Church of St. Mary, situated in Hill-street, is a large and handsome building in the Gothic style. It was erected at a cost of £14,000, raised by a rate levied by Act of Parliament, aided by large subscriptions from Lord Kilmorey General Needham, Mr. Trevor Corry, and others. It was opened in 1819. The tower and steeple are 190 feet in height, and the building is 75 feet long, by 51 feet wide, exclusive of the chancel. On the tower there is a mitred abbot in his albe, sitting between two yew trees, sculptured in bas relief, and in the interior may be seen a handsome coloured window, erected to the memory of Arthur Windsor, Marquis of Downshire, and two handsome monuments erected, one of them to the memory of Major-General Henry Davis, a soldier of distinction, who succeeded the Duke of Wellington in the command of the troops in the Mysore, where he quelled an alarming mutiny in the British army, which dangerously menaced our power in India, and in reward for his services, he was appointed first aid-de-camp to the king, and soon after adjutant of the army in Sicily. He died in 1813.



The other monument commemorates the services of the Right Honourable Isaac Corry, an eminent statesman, who succeeded his father, as member for the borough of Newry, in the Irish and British Parliaments, and retained his seat for thirty years.

He was Chancellor of the Exchequer for Ireland, and greatly distinguished for his financial abilities.

The inland trade of Newry was much advanced by his efforts. He was born in 1755, and died in 1813.

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Patrick, in Hill-street, is a handsome modern building, also in the Gothic style, constructed of granite, and having a very ornamental doorway. The east and west windows are of great dimensions.

The Roman Catholic Chapel of St. Mary's, situated in Chapel-street, was built in 1789. It has a fine organ, the gift of the late Earl of Kilmorey.

A third Roman Catholic Chapel, termed the Dominican Church, has been recently erected, in an elaborate style of architecture, and there is also a handsome little chapel attached to the Convent of the Poor Clare's Sisterhood of Nuns.

The Unitarian Church, in Needham-place, is a structure of considerable elegance, with a well-proportioned spire.

The churches of the Trinitarian Presbyterians are termed respectively Sandys-street, Downshire-road, and Riverside.

Newry was the birth place of Jarlath Mactrien, prior of Annagh in 465, and of Dr. Parry, who was raised to the bishopric of Kilaloe, in 1647.

In a geographical description of Ireland, printed in the year 1642, Newry was called Bagnal, in remembrance of the great marshal of that name.

In the thirtieth year of his reign, A. D. 1543, Henry VIII. converted the abbey of Newry into a collegiate church, for secular priests, granting them a confirmation of all their possessions, at a rent of four marks in the year. This was done at the suit of Sir Arthur Magennis, who was at the same time knighted, and received £50 of the king's bounty.



Soon after, however, it was dissolved by King Edward VI., and granted to Marshal Bagnal, who had rebuilt the town, and fortified it with various castles. He also built the church in High-street, and was interred within its walls. On the tower the Bagnal arms were engraved in stone, with the date 1578. Harris says, "Mr. Needham's castle, a very old building, was the home of the abbot, and Lord Hillsborough's castle was erected by one Crelly, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth." Part of the town, and some lands adjacent were reserved to Crelly, in the patent issued to Bagnal, to whom and his heirs he was bound to pay a chiefry of £3 5s. a year. The interest in this property, including the townland of Corneyhough, was subsequently purchased by Mr. Hill, father of the first Lord Hillsborough, in whose family it still remains.

Sir Nicholas Bagnal, a Welshman, was father of Sir Henry Bagnal, who was born at Carlingford in 1556. His mother was Ellen, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Edward Griffith, of Penrhyn. Sir Henry married Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Savage, and by whom he had Arthur, his eldest son and heir.

The Bagnals were long intimately connected with the County of Down, in which they obtained large possessions, and were distinguished both as politicians and soldiers.

The Bagnal family, however, were not without their difficulties, in defending the extensive possessions granted to them by royal patent.

The sister of Sir Henry Bagnal, having fled from her brother's castle, became a convert to the Roman Catholic faith, and married Hugh O'Neil, when the brothers-in-law became irreconcilable enemies.\* In 1597 Sir Henry, who commanded the English forces against the Irish, led by O'Neil, was killed at the battle of Beal-an-atha, or Blackwater town, a bloody and decisive action, after which, for a while, the English almost disappeared from Ulster, and the Irish chieftains were for a short time triumphant.

\* Mitchell's Life of Hugh O'Neil.

In 1602, however, Deputy Mountjoy wasted the entire country, destroying the crops and carrying off the cattle, so that multitudes of the wretched inhabitants perished of famine.

By an Act of Parliament (second of William and Mary) a remainder, created by Nicholas Bagnal, in 1687, by a tripartite indenture, was set aside. The person in remainder, Dudley Bagnal, had appeared in arms, on behalf of James II. and, afterwards, procured an attainder against Nicholas Bagnal, who had made the indenture, on account of his remaining faithful to King William, when he dispossessed his benefactor, seized on his possessions, and leased and disposed of them as his own.

On the breaking out of the rebellion in 1641, Sir Con Magennis attacked, and took the Castle and town, destroyed the church, and put many of the inhabitants to the sword. It was, however, soon after recovered by Lord Conway, who did not, in his turn, hold it long, as it was surprised and retaken by O'Neil, in 1642. Newry suffered much, during this terrible rebellion, and having been invested by General Munroe, with 2,500 of the Scotch troops, who had landed at Carrickfergus, he took it by storm. Afterwards it continued to flourish until 1689, when it was reduced to ashes by the Duke of Berwick, on his retreat before the forces of Prince Schomberg. Nothing very important, in a historical point of view, has occurred since that period. When the ruins of the old abbey were removed about sixty years ago, large quantities of bones, fragments of carved stones, rude forts, and a quantity of cannon and musket balls, were found.

The Manors of Newry, Mourne, and Carlingsford, after the lapse of about a century, were divided in 1715, by the two proprietors, in whom they vested, by the will of their father-in-law, Sir Nicholas Bagnal. The Down and Armagh estates were apportioned to Mr. Needham, and those of Louth to Mr. Bayley, the great-grandfather of the Marquis of Anglesea, the late proprietor of a considerable portion of the property. Another part was left by the will of William, the grandson of the first

Mr. Needham, and he made Viscount Kilmorey, great grandfather of the present Earl, his heir. The present Peer usually resides on his estate in Shropshire, and his grandson was recently member of Parliament for the borough of Newry.

The rental of the Newry and Mourne estates combined, is very large.

The following descriptions of Newry in the 17th century are more amusing than flattering: "July 7th. We went to the 'Newries,' a most difficult way to find out; herein we wandered, and being lost, fell amongst the Irish towns. The Irish houses are the poorest cabins I have seen. This is a wild countre, neither inhabited, planted, nor inclosed; yet itt would become, if itt was husbanded. I gave an Irishman a groat, to bring us into the way, who led us, like a villain, directly out of the way, soe it was three hours before we came to Newrie. It is but a poor towne, and is much Irish, and is navigable for boats to come up to the town. Here *wee* baited at a good inn, the sign of the Prince's Arms." The following extract, taken from Bodley's visit to Lecale, A.D. 1602-3, is not more favourable:—

"We set out for the town commonly called Newry. There, to speak the truth, we were not very well entertained, nor according to our quality, for that town produces nothing but lean beef, and very rarely mutton, and the very worst wine, nor was there any bread except biscuits."

In the present day, however, the supply of provisions, of all sorts, is good and abundant, and the access to Newry from every quarter is easy, since the establishment of steam vessels and railways. The reader will, therefore, smile on contrasting the present mode of travelling, with that common 100 years ago, when stage coaches, plying between Dublin and Belfast, twice a week, "lodged" in Newry, and subsequently a "flying coach," as a marvel of celerity, made the journey in a day.

From its position as a frontier town, Newry has been subject to great vicissitudes. At an early day the country was wasted by an army of Danes, who disembarked here. Subsequently, John

de Courcy, with the object of securing the pass into Louth, erected a castle at Newry, which was afterwards destroyed by Edward Bruce. A second castle was built in 1480, which, with most of the town, was taken and wasted by Shane O'Neill. Subsequently, Nicholas Bagnal, Knight Marshal, restored the castle, and rebuilt the town, then first rising into a place of consequence, and peopled it with Protestant settlers, for which important services, James I., confirmed to him, in 1641, the entire Lordship, with the manors of Greencastle, Carlingford, and Mourne. The exertions of Bagnal had the effect of opening up, and rendering more secure, the passages from one part of the kingdom to the other, as quaintly described in the annexed ancient extract :—

“The Lordship of Newrie and Mourne are the inheritance Bagnoll, who at his coming thither, found them altogether waste, and Shane O'Neil dwellinge within less a mile to the Newrie, at a place called Fedom, suffringe no subject to travell from Dundalk northward. But sithence the fortifications and buildings made there by the said Sir Nicholas Bagnoll, all the passages are made free, and much of the countries next adjacent reduced to reasonable civilitie.” Sir Henry Sidney, Viceroy, who visited Newry in 1575, testifies to the excellent management and condition of the Bagnal property.

The town of Newry is the most considerable place of commerce in the County of Down, which consists principally in the cross channel traffic, and the foreign trade, to the United States, and dominion of Canada. The chief articles of import are cotton, linen, and woollen yarns, wool, timber, iron, lead, tin, brass, slates, tallow, ashes, flax, hemp, tar, mats, pitch, flaxseed, wine, fruit, oil, brimstone, barilla, hardware, glass, pottery, and china, sugar, and cloverseed : and the exports are linen, cloth, grain, live stock, butter, eggs, flax, cow hides, pigs, cows, horses, tanner's waste, potatoes, grass seed, flour, skins, hay, starch, and whiskey.

The Baltic, the United States, the British American, the

Russian, and the coal trades, are respectively carried on in Foreign, American, British, and Whitehaven ships.

The following list includes the importations into Newry, in the year 1871:—Wool Goods, 13,417 tons; iron and hardware goods, 1001 tons; slates, 2,384 tons; fire-clay goods, 412 tons; and miscellaneous, 1,754 tons, making a total of 18,968 tons.

Among the commercial buildings are several extensive spinning mills, besides flour and corn mills, numerous tanyards, several carriage factories, and a brewery.

The timber yards and saw mills of Messrs. Guy, and Messrs. Carvill, with gantries for the removal of the largest logs of timber, are very extensive. The granite quarries termed the Moore granite quarries, owned by the trustees of the Earl of Kilmorey, and worked by the Messrs. Campbell, are situated near the town. Enormous blocks have been taken out of these quarries, some of the specimens exceeding forty feet in length, and nearly seven feet in breadth.

The Downshire quarries are also adjacent to the town. Both produce materials of the first quality, which are chiefly disposed of in the principal towns of England and Scotland, though there is a considerable home consumption, at the same time.

The Newry Foundry Company is a very extensive establishment, turning out about forty tons of finished work, every month; and the Soho Foundry is celebrated for the production of various kinds of agricultural implements.

Hill-street, familiarly called the low ground, which takes its name from the Downshire family, is the principal street in Newry. It is handsome and spacious, but the town generally, except in the older parts, is well built, and some of the houses, recently erected, display considerable taste, yet, so late as the year 1700, Hill-street contained only six or seven slated mansions, all the rest of the town consisting of thatched cabins. In the beginning of the 18th century, the connection between the Down and Armagh sides of the town was kept up by the bridge at Ballybought, and a ford for foot-passengers, where sugar island bridge now



stands, whereas at present four stone bridges have been thrown across the river, and four constructed of wood and iron, across the canal.

The flourishing condition of the commerce of Newry owed its origin, in great measure, to the exertions of the Bagnal family. About the year 1758, the West Indian trade was very considerable, but subsequently it was nearly lost, through the competition of the superior capital of Great Britain. It somewhat revived after the removal of the restrictions on Irish commerce, in 1783, and the improvement of the navigation also tended something to its advancement.

An extensive line of quays, flanked by large and commodious stores and warehouses, lies along the bank of the canal. where vessels can discharge their cargoes, and further north, there are basins or floating docks for the convenience of the boats on the canals. The navigation is carried on by a ship canal from Warrenpoint to Newry, which admits vessels drawing fifteen feet of water into the Albert Basin, and the traffic can be thence maintained by canal to Portadown, about sixteen miles distant. Ships of 1,000 tons burden can lie at Warrenpoint. The Newry Navigation Company have the management of the port and canal. The Custom House is a plain building, on the Armagh side of the town. The staff of this institution are, a collector, a clerk, an examining officer, and a locker, and a bonded storekeeper. There is, besides, an Inland Revenue bonded store, with a supervisor, and warehouse officer. At Warrenpoint there is a tide-dock, having about 500 feet of water, and a Custom House, examining officers, and an agent for Lloyd's. The port dues at Warrenpoint are regulated by agreement. They are about 1s. per foot for anchorage. Brigs pay 5s. each ; schooners, 4s. ; and sloops, 3s. The harbour-light dues are three-halfpence, and Ballast 10d., per ton. The charges at Newry are 6d., to 10d., per foot anchorage. A smack is charged 2s. 6d. ; a schooner, 4s. ; a brig, 5s. ; and a ship, 10s. The canal dues are 1s. 1d. per ton, and three-halfpence for registered dock dues. Ballast and pilotage are from 1s. to 1s. 2d.



The western part of the town of Newry, called Ballybought, from the Irish Bailebocht, which signifies "poor town," is in the county of Armagh. The government of Newry is now vested in the local justices of the peace, including the resident magistrate, and a police court is held every morning in the magistrates' office. The municipal arrangements are in the hands of the Town Commissioners, who meet on the first Monday of each month, and a borough court, for the disposal of cases under the Towns' Improvement Act, is open every Friday morning, at the Courthouse. The Model School is a handsome structure, in the Elizabethan style, and there are also the Newry School, and a Christian Brothers' School, as well as two convents, at which instruction is also given. The other public buildings are the Assembly-rooms, the Post-office, Police-barracks, Freemasons' Hall, an Orange Hall, a Commercial News-room, well supplied with papers and periodicals, an Athenæum News-room, gas-works, two courthouses and two bride-wells. The Female Reformatory, in which a number of inmates are supported, is a commodious building. The military barracks are extensive, and, having been originally erected as a linen-hall, the emblem of the spinning-wheel, though not now appropriate, may still be seen engraved on the pillars of the entrance-gates.

Among the societies connected with Newry are a Farming Society, comprising within its range the Newry poor-law union, a Horticultural Society, a Rowing Club, a Cricket Club, a Choral Society, three "Young Men's Christian Associations," connected with the Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic Churches, and some others.

The population of the Lordship of Newry at present amounts to 14,419—6,797 males, and 7,622 females; that of the Borough to 8,837 persons. The entire parish of Newry contains 22,496 inhabitants. The Borough now returns one member to Parliament, under the 13. & 14 Victoria, cap. 60. The Report of the Commission for ascertaining the boundary, under the Reform Bill, says, "The town of Newry was incorporated by King James,

under the title of Provost, free burgesses, and commonalty of Newry, on the 27th of February, 1613. The charter is said to have contained a proviso that any vacancy should be filled up within seven days, and that it is probable, that the non-performance of this stipulation led to the extinction of the Corporation. The right of returning two members was given to the Provost and twelve burgesses, but after the extinction it vested in the inhabitants. The borough includes within its limits a large rural district, comprising several considerable townlands. The borough was formerly pot-walloping, and included all house-holders paying scot and lot, the seneschal being the returning officer, until the passing of the 35 Geo. III. The population then was 13,369, the number registered 1,086, and the number of houses 2,214. The probable number of electors, under the Reform Bill, was 600, and of five-pound house-holders who could not register, 450.

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## CHAPTER XX.

### Topography of the Barony of Mourne.

THE ancient name of the Barony of Mourne was Bairche or Boirche, as frequently alluded to, in the earlier histories of Ireland, in several of which, the mountains of the district are described as the peaks of Boirche. In the Book of Rights, in which the several stipends paid by the King of Uladh to the princes subject to his authority, are recorded, three steeds, three mantles, three horns, and three hounds," are assigned to the King of Boirche, as his portion. The term Mourne, according to Joyce, is deduced from Mughdhorn, a son of Colla Meann, a branch of whose descendants, the Macmahons, emigrated, in the twelfth century, from Cremorne in the County of Monaghan, to the southern parts, of what now forms the County of Down, as appears from a pedigree of that family, discovered in the Library of Trinity College some years ago. Mourne comprises an area of 47,887 acres, and contains 13,070 inhabitants, but it consists of only one parish, that of Kilkeel, the barony and parish being conterminable, and of this great extent of land, ten thousand acres are arable, and twelve thousand under pasture, the remainder forming a part of the Mourne Mountains.

To the right, on entering the Bay of Carlingford, stands on a small inlet the remains of Greencastle, which was fortified by the De Burghs, Earls of Ulster. It was destroyed by the Irish in 1343, but soon after repaired and more strongly fortified. It was

then placed, together with the Castle of Carlingford, which is on the opposite side of the Bay, under one Constable, to secure the communication between the Pale, and the English settlements in Lecale.\*

The joint salaries of £20 for Greencastle, and £5 for Carlingford, were allotted to Stephen Gernon, who was appointed to the office of constable about that period ; and in 1495 the constablenesship was esteemed of such importance, that it could only be held by a person of English birth. In the rebellion of 1641, the garrisons presented a formidable check to the Irish troops, on their way northward.

Two marriages were celebrated at this Castle in 1312, one between Maurice FitzThomas and Catherine, daughter of the Earl of Ulster, and the other between Thomas FitzJohn, and another daughter of the same nobleman.

The principal houses in the parish are Shannon Grove, the residence of Mr. Richard Jebb Brown ; The Forte, Dr. Parker ; The Abbey, Mr. Henry ; Ballykeel House, Mr. Walmesley ; Streamview, Eastwood, Mr. John Henry ; Thornmount, Mrs. Boyle ; Moore Lodge, Mr. Moore ; Glassdrumman House, Mrs. Senior ; Lisnacree House, Mr. George Waring, Annalong Parsonage ; and the Rectory, and Manse. The Rev. Mr. Close the present Rector, is a brother of the late Colonel Close, of Drumbanagher Castle.

Pacolet was the residence of the late General Francis Rawdon Chesney, a distinguished artillery officer, who was born at Ballyrea, in the County of Down, in 1798, and died at Pacolet in Mourne, in 1872, at a very advanced age. General Chesney was not only distinguished professionally, but he acquired great reputation as a traveller, being the originator of the Overland passage to India, after having personally examined the route. He also gave the first conception of a practicable canal through the Isthmus of Suez. In the years 1835-6, after many difficulties and dangers, he

\* Record in the Birmingham Tower.

effected the descent of the Euphrates, from its source to its outlet, in order to execute a survey for the British Government. General Chesney was characterized by great simplicity of manners, activity of mind, and energy and perseverance in his undertakings.

Mourne Park, the mansion of the Earl of Kilmorey, is situated in a picturesque demesne, between Kilkeel and Rostrevor. The House of Needham is of ancient English lineage, descended from the family of De Needham, Nedeham, or Needham, in Derbyshire, and Cravack in Chester, and subsequently of Shenton in Shropshire. Sir Robert Needham, of Shenton, was elevated to the peerage of Ireland, in 1625, as Viscount Kilmorey, and in 1822, his son and successor Robert was created Viscount Newry and Mourne, and Earl of Kilmorey, all in the peerage of Ireland. Robert his son, succeeded and died without issue. A relative, Robt. Needham of Mourne Park, bequeathed his estates to Robert, second Viscount Kilmorey. The present holder of the title is Francis Jack Needham, the second Earl and thirteenth Viscount. The heir presumptive is his grandson, Francis Jack, Viscount Newry, son of the late Viscount Newry, who died in 1851.

Not far distant from Mourne Park there is a very ancient graveyard, at Lisnacree. There is a good market in Kilkeel, held on Wednesdays, and a flax market on each Tuesday.

Kilkeel is deduced from the Irish Cill or Chaoil, the Church of the Strait, as being situated in a narrow district lying between the mountains and the sea.

The town, which contains many good houses including free schools and a hotel, bank, and Moravian meetinghouse, is the property of Lord Kilmorey. In the vicinity, near the river foot, a new pier, capable of admitting vessels of fourteen feet draught, has been recently erected, and it will, no doubt, prove of considerable advantage as a fishing station.

The chapels belonging to Kilkeel have been already enumerated, but we shall here add a few details.

The chapel of Tamlagh was situate near Killowen, and the graveyard still remains. By the charter of 1609, this chapel was

constituted a member of the corps of the Treasurership of Down Cathedral.

The ruins of Ballochenevry, marked in the Ordnance Survey as St. Mary's Church, as well as the churchyard, may still be seen in the townland of Ballaghanery.

In the townland of Greencastle, are the remains of the Castle so called, and the colse on the south, as well as the chapel, are in ruins. Kilcoo, the Kilcudua of the charter of 1609, is termed Kilchou in the Terrier, and Kilcua in the Ulster Visitation. The ruins of the old church and the graveyard are in the town of Ballymoney.

Kilmegan, before the Reformation, was styled a Plebania, implying the jurisdiction of a Plebanus, *i. e.*, an incumbent, not a rector, having several chapels-of-ease under his charge, with assistants to officiate in them.\* The names of five of these chapels, viz., Kilcoo, Kilmegan, Ballochaneir, Tamlaght, and Greencastle, have come down to the present times. The Parish Church occupies the ancient site, in the townland of Moneyslane, and the old church is situated in the townland of Magheramurphy, not far from the modern structure.

The Church of Mocorne, now Kilkeel parish, has been variously called Kylkeyl in le Mourné, Ecclesia Kilchel alias de Morun, the Church of St. Colman del Morne, and of St. Colman of Kylkele, the names Mourne and Kilkeel having been used indifferently, to denote the same parish, in the sixteenth century.

At the date of the Taxation, the Rural Deanery of "Lechayl" comprehended the territories of Mourne, Kinelarty, and Lecale, but it was subsequently divided into the deaneries of Lecale, and Mourne, a distribution which has held good to the present day.

Jarlath M'Trien, who was born in the territory of Mourne, was a disciple of St. Patrick, by whom he was converted, and by whom he was ultimately succeeded in the See of Armagh.

There was formerly a manorial court for the Manor of Kilkeel

\* Reeve's Antiquities.



and Greencastle, having jurisdiction over the whole barony of Mourne, and entertaining pleas to the amount of £10, by attachment or civil bill process, but of course it ceased to exist, when other courts of the same description were abolished by Act of Parliament.

The first Presbyterian minister of Mourne was the Rev. Mr. Magee, whose residence was at Drummonlane, in Dunraven, about a quarter of a mile from the town of Kilkeel.

In those early days, there were two buildings, in which the Presbyterian ministers of Mourne conducted divine service. One was in Derryogue, on the road from Kilkeel to Greencastle, opposite Moore Lodge, and the place is still called the Meeting-house bog. The other place of worship was at Clash, in the townland of Moneydaraghbeg, the foundations of which were erased about forty years ago.

At Ballagh, in the most northern part of the barony, there are ruins of an old church, bearing evidence of great antiquity, and very probably the most ancient ecclesiastical ruin in Ulster.

In the rebellion of 1641, several Protestants of the vicinity were massacred at the Ballagh, which is still known as the bloody pass or bloody bridge. A number of Presbyterian families, including the Moores, who came from Bala Tala in the Isle of Man, the Gordons, the Mitchells, and many others, settled here, after the rebellion of 1641\* had been quelled, and their descendants may still be found in the neighbourhood.

The Lough of Carlingford is a large and well sheltered bay, the entrance being between Cranfield and Ballagan points. The channel is marked, both at its outward and inward ends, by a red keel buoy on the north, and a black keel buoy on the south side, and a vessel will enter the bay in safety, by keeping Haulbowline and Greenore lights in one, until in the centre between the red and black buoys, and abreast of the former light, and then steering for Greenore.

\* "Belfast News-Letter, 1873."

Carlingford Lough is about eight miles long, and a mile or a mile and a-half wide ; and at Narrow Water it contracts to the breadth of a river, up which the tide flows to Newry. The middle of the lough is deep, the upper part shallow, and the bottom occupied by an immense bed of oysters. The lower part of the bay has many rocks and dangers.

Lough Carlingford is much exposed to violent squalls coming off the adjacent mountain. On the bar at Cranfield, which extends all across, there is only eight feet of water. There is another bar at Stalka, equally dangerous ; but the chart of the lough, executed by Nimmo, after a careful survey, tends to lessen the risks of the navigation.

The Helly Hunter, upon which a large red buoy has been placed, is a rocky shoal, lying to the eastward of the entrance to the lough. Between the west side of Blockhouse Island, and Ballagan Point are several dangerous shoals.

Carlingford Lough Light, on Greenore Point, is revolving, and visible at a distance of nine miles.

The Carlingford Lights are shown from a tower erected on Haulbowline Rock, which lies upon the bar, half a mile from Cranfield Point. The upper is a fixed light, and the lower revolving. The higher light may be seen all night, at the distance of fifteen miles, and the lower light is exhibited from half-flood to half-ebb. In the day a ball is hoisted, and in foggy weather, a bell is tolled every half-minute.

The lights are in  $54^{\circ} 1''$  north latitude, and  $6^{\circ} 5''$  west longitude.

Material improvements have been recently effected on the Lough of Carlingford, increasing its advantages as a harbour of refuge, under the direction of Mr. James Barton, the eminent engineer of the Commissioners, for widening and deepening the harbour. These advantages must tend to increase the prosperity of the ports inside the bar, if not counteracted by the imposition of too heavy harbour duties, which would no doubt be strongly opposed by the merchants of Newry.

We shall here introduce a few extracts from Mr. Barton's last Report (1873):—

“The Lough of Carlingford, before the commencement of the works, had at its entrance a natural barrier or bar, which was the continuation of Cranfield Point. This bar has a depth of about eight feet, at its shallowest part, at low-water, and formed a continuous shoal for about three-quarters of a mile. Within this bar are about 1,300 acres of deep water, with anchorage and shelter, and facilities for a large development of commerce. The works may be dated to have begun in May, 1867, and the result to the present time, is the opening of a clear channel, four hundred feet wide, and fourteen feet deep, at low water of springs, and within that channel, a deeper one of three hundred feet wide, has eighteen feet, at low water. This channel extends for about three-quarters of a mile from the water outside, to the deep water in the lough, opposite Haulbowline light house. This channel has also been marked by buoys on either side, and all the principal points, bounding the deep water of the lough, have been also marked by conspicuous buoys.”

The name of Carlingford is a compound of the ancient Cair-linn and fiord, implying the Dane's fiord or ford, and Cranfield derives its name from creamh, wild garlic, and coile, a wood, corrupted into Crowhill.

The tolls are:—For every vessel entering Carlingford Lough without delivering or loading cargo there, 3d.; for every vessel entering or leaving Carlingford Lough, and delivering or loading cargo, if coming from or going to any port of the United Kingdom or the Isle of Man, 6d.; if coming from or going to any port other than a port in the United Kingdom, or the Isle of Man, 9d. per registered ton; but all sailing vessels under 75 tons and all steam vessels under 100 tons, and all vessels under 1000 tons are exempt, if they enter or leave between half-flood and the next half-ebb tide, as well as all sailing vessels of, and under, 150 tons, and steam vessels of, and under, 200 tons, delivering or loading cargo, at the town or river of Newry, north of old Narrow Water Castle.

Annalong is a small dry harbour, with excellent shelter for coasters. The entrance, though narrow, is easy, as it is straight and deep. A considerable export trade in granite is carried on here. The population, (180 persons), are chiefly engaged in fishing.

The name Athnalong implies the ford of the ships, the harbour having been near a ford (ath), and long signifying a ship.

Newcastle, situated at the west end of the sandy beach of Dundrum, is also a dry harbour, surrounded by a quay and sea-wall, with an easy access between two pier heads. The harbour, built by public grant, is all dry at low water, and being within the surf, when the wind is eastward, the run within is excessive, so that vessels lie there at a great risk. It has at the extremity about fourteen feet water at spring tides, and affords, except in easterly winds, good shelter for small coasting vessels.

The port charges at Newcastle are as follow :—under 60 tons, 5s. ; above that tonnage, 7s. 6d. ; plankage, 5s., and 2½d. per ton, for harbour light dues.

## CHAPTER XXI.

### Topography of the Barony of Upper Iveagh.

THE population of the upper half of this barony amounted, in 1871, to 29,725, and of the lower half to 33,707 persons.

The parish of Seapatrick (Suidhe Phadraig) Patrick's Seat, contains the large and improving town of Banbridge, in the vicinity of which, is Huntly Glen, on the old road to Dublin, by which King William led his army, when on the way to the Boyne.

The bleach greens on the Bann are very numerous, including Brookford, Millmount, Ashfield, Hazlebank, Clibborn Vale, Mountpleasant, Balleeny, Ballydown, Bradford, and some others.

The principal mansions are—Millmount, Brookfield, Huntly Glen, Seapatrick House, Ballyvalley, Ballievy House, Edenderry, Bann View, and the Glebe House, occupied, respectively, by Mr. Hayes, Mr. Bryce Smyth, the late Miss Dunbar, Mr. F. W. Hayes, the Rev. J. D'Arcy, Mr. G. Crawford, Mr. W. A. Stewart, Mr. J. Little, and the Rev. Mr. Stewart, the majority being extensively engaged in the linen business. The population of the township of Banbridge is 5,600, and of Seapatrick or Newtown, 613.

The main street is long and spacious, commencing at the bridge, which spans the river, at the Belfast end of the town. Harris describes it as a village, so called, from having a stone bridge over the Bann, erected in 1712, and as having great linen fairs, attended by English factors, five times in the year.

The public buildings include the parish church, and the places of worship of the Presbyterian, Unitarian, Roman Catholic,

Methodist, and Baptist religious denominations ; a police-barrack, and branches of the Provincial, Northern, and Belfast Banking Companies.

There are also a commodious courthouse, a news-room, a reading-room, and a handsome market-house, erected by the third Marquis of Downshire.

The markets are excellent, those for flax, pork, and butter, and other commodities being held on Monday ; whilst the grain, hay, and straw markets take place on Fridays and Tuesdays. The horse fairs are celebrated.

The linen trade is the staple of Banbridge. In the year 1834, 185,710 webs were bleached on the several grounds, a number nearly equal to the entire quantity of linen, finished in the whole county, at the end of the last century. The principal sites of the trade are the parishes of Seapatrick and Tullylish. Linens of all descriptions are prepared for the home and foreign markets, and many of a very fine fabric are manufactured in the vicinity of Dromore, and hence called "*Dromores*," a term well known in the vicinity. There are also very extensive thread factories at Huntley Glen, Milltown, and Banbridge. A brown linen hall, for the sale of the unbleached linen brought to market, was erected in 1817, by the Marquis of Downshire. This parish formerly constituted a part of the union of Aghaderg, being the corps of the Deanery, out of which £271 were payable to the Dean. The original church and yard were in the townland of Kilpike, but the modern church is built in Banbridge, near the entrance to which, a handsome monument has been erected to the memory of Captain Crozier, who perished in the ship *Erebus*, in an exploratory expedition to the North Pole. The church preceding the present structure was a small building, situated on the eastern bank of the river Bann, erected in 1698, on the site of a more ancient edifice, which was destroyed in 1641. The ground for the present church, together with liberal contributions, were given by the Downshire family. The old church of Disertunde, the site of which is not known, may, as conjectured by Reeves, have merged in Seapatrick. Aghaderg was a rectory,



united by charter of the 7th of James the First, to the rectories of Seapatrick, Drumballyroney, Tullylish, and parts of Drumgooland, and Magherally, constituting the corps of the Deanery of Dromore, which was in the patronage of the Crown. The tithes were over £746, of which £497 16s. were payable to the Dean, and £248 to the Vicar. The patronage was alternately in the bishop of the diocese and the Crown. The church of Hacyglid may, according to Reeves, be a clerical error of Achyderrig, or some similar form of the modern name Aghaderg. The ancient church was situated to the westward of the lake, in the townland of Drumdullagh, and not far from a monastery of St. Francis. Some ruins of the church still remain, in the neighbourhood of which, some valuable gold torques were found a few years ago.\* The present church, built in the early English style, is large and handsome. It was erected in 1688, and a lofty square tower, surmounted by an octagonal spire, was added in 1821.

PARISH OF AGHADERG.—This parish contains a population of 5,537 persons, and its principal mansions are Loughbrickland House, Lisnagead House, Scarva House, Woodville, and Union Lodge, once the residence of Mr. Fivey, whose family was of some distinction in the county ; and the Rectory. Mr. John Whyte, of Loughbrickland House, is of ancient English lineage. Walter Whyte, a son of Ethelbert Whyte, Lord Chief Justice of South Wales, accompanied Strongbow to Ireland, and his descendants settled at Leixlip. Ultimately Nicholas Charles Whyte, a captain in the Royal Navy, became resident at Loughbrickland, and his son, Mr. John Whyte, is the present representative of the family.

Lisnagead Fort (the fort an hundred) closely adjoins Lisnagead House, the residence of the late Mr. Trevor, in the town of Loughbrickland, near which are the remains of the former mansion. The Trevors are a family of ancient standing in the county. Captain Edward Trevor commanded one hundred foot, at Newry in 1603, and Sir Richard Trevor, fifty horse, at the same

\* Dubourdieu, p. 303.

time. But even prior to this date, Captain R. Trevor is mentioned, as being in command of one hundred foot, at Nagee.

By a will, dated in 1641, Sir Edward Trevor leaves his house at "Magheragh," in the County of Down, and the lands between the watercourse of the mill and the priory, to his servant, Christian Edwards, if so long surviving.

Eastward of the original residence at Lisnagead, a mansion was erected by Major Hugh Trevor, a descendant of the first settler here, under his relative, Lord Dungannon.

Frances, the only daughter of Sir Marmaduke Whitechurch, of Loughbrickland, elsewhere mentioned, married Marcus Trevor, Viscount Dungannon, who was ennobled in 1662. He was the son of Sir Edward Trevor, by his first wife, who was buried in Clonallon Church.

The fort of Lisnagead was one of the best-constructed and most perfect of its kind, having a treble rampart and entrenchments. The entrance from the east is into a large circular enclosure. The fosses are very deep, and all paved at the bottom with round pebbles, set in clay. In clearing the fosses out, in 1832, Mr. Trevor found many silver coins, spear-heads, brass cauldrons, and other antique articles.

In 1783, a battle was fought here, between the "Hearts of Steel" and "Peep-of-day Boys," when several of the former were killed.

The town owed its rise to Sir Marmaduke Whitechurch, who came to Ireland to "cloath the army," and to whom, in requital, Queen Elizabeth granted the adjacent lands, together with a patent for holding a fair and market, but the market has long been discontinued. He built a church and a castle, on the borders of the lake, some ruins of which still remain, although the castle was dismantled in 1641, and the town and church destroyed. The latter was not rebuilt until 1688, when the town again began to improve.

Harris derives the name of Loughbrickland from breach-speckled, or breach, a trout, a fish which abounded in the lake

until destroyed by pikes, but Joyce more correctly deduces the original appellation Loch Bricrui, from Bricrui, an Ulster chieftain of the first century. The English forces, on their way to the Boyne, rendezvoused here, under the command of King William and Prince George, the camp extending in two lines, one of horse, and one of foot, as far as Scarva, and Poyntzpass. In the manuscript journal of Colonel Bellingham, who appears to have acted as guide to the army, we find the following entries :—  
 “ 24th of June—Went to the king at his headquarters, near Loughbricklin. I was kindly received by several of the nobility, and I was sometime in private, with ye Earl of Portland, and the Secretary of State. 25th of June—“ Very fayer, but windy. 26th—Very hott ; marched to Newry.”

Half-a-mile to the W. S. West of Loughbrickland, there are three upright pillar stones, on a high hill, called the three Sisters of Greenans, no doubt, the relics of an ancient Cromlech. The remains of the old graveyard lie in the valley at the foot of a hill.\* In 1826, a canoe, formed out of a solid piece of oak, was found in Meenan bog, in this parish.

At Drummillar there is a very large cairn, built of stones. It is 226 feet in circumference, and sixty feet high ; and near it stood Tallyho, the residence of Sir Richard Johnston. The name Drummillar, *i. e.* the Eagle's ridge, is derived from iolar, an eagle. In 1187, the Danes, who had ravaged the North of Ireland, were defeated here by the Irish, under the command of Mac Lorriagh.

The family of Reilly is of ancient standing, having been long settled at Scarva. They are a branch of the ancient House of O'Reilly, Prince of Breffni, but for several generations they have discontinued the use of the prefix O, although latterly reassumed by a younger member of the family. The following are the names in succession of the Reillys of Scarva House :—

Edmund O'Reilly, (Brian Myles,) a captain in the army ; John, of Belfast ; Myles of Lurgan, died 1735 ; John, of Scarva, and the second John of Scarva, mentioned by Harris, who died in 1804.

\* Reilly's Harris, p. 266.

John Lushington died in 1840, and was succeeded by Mr. John Temple Reilly, the present proprietor of Scarva.

There are many fine trees in Scarva demesne, and, amongst others, a venerable oak, under which the tent of King William III. was pitched when on his way to the Boyne. There is a curious entrenchment, or earthen rampart, running along the Armagh boundary of Down, and from Lisnagead, where it commences, to Forkhill, and even further westward. It is called the Dane's cast or Tyrone ditches, known in Irish as Glean na much diubhe, (*i. e.* the glen of the black pig), the same name as that applied by the Lowland Scotch, to the wall of Antoninus. The Dane's cast measures from 50 to 80 feet in breadth. Spear heads, arrows, and stone and brass celts, were found in almost every part of a cut, which was made through this parish, in constructing the canal. In 1807 the head and horns of an enormous elk were dug up, which, with a gold tiara, brazen swords, spear heads, and other antiquities, are preserved at Scarva House.

The Newry canal passes close to the village of Scarva, where there is a small dock and quayage for lighters, which usually carry cargoes of turf.

Scarva is situated about three miles from Loughbrickland on the banks of the Newry canal. The Place is thus referred to by Harris :—"North-west of Loughbrickland, about two miles, stands the house and good improvements of Mr. John Reilly, near Scarvagh bridge, who is meditating the establishment of a village there, and with this object had procured a patent for holding fairs and markets." At this time a manufactory of salt of a superior description, was carried on by Mr. Reilly. The village referred to has since been built, but the market has been discontinued.

According to Joyce, in his Names of places, Scairbh, or Scaerbheach, pronounced Scarriſh, or Scarva, signifies a rough shallow ford, and hence Scarvy, in Monaghan, has a similar derivation.

The earthen ramparts of Scarva were levelled by the present Mr. Reilly in 1847, and the stones of the old castle were used in

forming the foundation of Scarva church, a neat building overlooking the village. The tower of the church is in the exact position of the old castle, and the graveyard occupies the site of the ramparts.

In this part of the county there were, in ancient times, five passes leading into the adjoining county of Armagh, through a district abounding in bogs and morasses, viz., Montgomery's, M'Bride's, Scarva, Poyntz, or as it is sometimes called Fenwick's, and Lamb's or Tuscan Pass, termed in Irish Turrishane.

Poyntz Pass consists of one long street, intersected by a shorter one, and takes its name from Lieutenant Poyntz, an officer in the English army, who, with a few troops, forced the pass in the face of a numerous body of Tyrone's soldiers, for which service he received a grant of five hundred acres of land. Poyntzpass is partly in Down, and partly in Armagh.

The population of Loughbrickland is 388 ; of Scarva, 196 ; and of Poyntzpass, 386.

The great bog formerly existing about Scarva, through which the entrance to Armagh ran, was called Glanflush.

I should here mention, that I have in this chapter, as well as various other parts of the work, derived much assistance from an interleaved edition of Harris, annotated by the late Counsellor James Reilly, and obligingly placed at my disposal by his relative, Mr. John Temple Reilly, of Scarva House.

The name Aghaderg, signifies The Red Ford—Athdearg.

Annaclone parish has a neat, but small Church, with a large glebe of 204 acres, and near it is the fort of Tanvally, many of smaller dimensions lying all around the district. The present population comprises 1,936 persons.

Annaclone signifies the Marsh of the lawn or meadow, Enach-cluana.\*

The parish of Donaghmore, Domhnachmor, the great Church, is generally arable and fertile. In the time of Harris, the population

\* Harris, p. 117.



consisted of about 1,000 Protestants, and 800 Roman Catholics, but the relative proportions are now greatly altered. The present population comprises 2,551 persons.

The Church is pretty central, and situated not far from the Four Mile House, on the road leading from Newry to Belfast. The patronage was in the Primate.

The Church of Donaghmore (now the parish of Donaghmore) was founded about the middle of the fifth century, by St. MacErc, its first bishop. The modern church is situated very close to the site of the old one. It is a small handsome edifice, with a lofty tower, ornamented with buttresses, pinnacles, and finials, erected by voluntary contributions. The church was built by Archbishop Boulter, in 1741. The glebe-house is large and handsome. It was erected in 1786. There is a good glebe containing 36 acres.

This church was anciently termed, for distinction, Donaghmore of Moycoba. In the fifteenth century it was held in succession, by several members of the family of O'Makrele, on account of their position as hereditary Herenachs of "Donaghmore." The territory of Moycoba embraces a considerable portion of Iveagh, extending as far as Dromore. According to the Annals of the Four Masters, there were many Lords of Coba, during the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth centuries.

The English are said to have had a castle at Donaghmore in 1188, built by the son of Maurice Fitzgerald, but destroyed by Brian O'Neill, in the year following its erection.

The principal houses in the parish are Dromantine House, Ballymoney House, Annaghbane House, Frankfort, and Beech-hill, at present occupied by the Rev. John Campbell Quinn, the rector of the parish.

Dromantine, a handsome structure, is the family mansion of the Inneses. It is well situated, and ornamented with extensive and thriving plantations and pleasure grounds, commanding fine views of a rich and cultivated district, and striking and varied mountain scenery.

In the churchyard of Donaghmore there is a remarkable old



cross, about seven feet high, and beneath it the entrance to an artificial cave. Near the centre of the cave is a transept, forming two distinct chambers. The cave is three feet wide, five feet high, and sixty-two feet long, and at the cross, thirty feet broad.

There are two Roman Catholic chapels in the parish, and the Dowagh or Dane's Cast traverses its western confines.

In 1622, Sir Edward Trevor held the Twelve Towns and the rectory, which constituted the Manor of Donaghmore, under the See of Armagh, but at present they are held under the Primate, as nine townlands.

The Manor of Glyn, or Glynwood, was, in the time of Harris, the property of "William Innys," a minor.

It originally belonged to the Magennises, and was the scene of a dreadful massacre in 1641, in which about twelve hundred Protestants perished.

The Inneses of Dromantine are descended from the Innes of Leuchars, in Scotland, a younger branch of the ancient family of Innes of that ilk, or Innes of Innes, now represented by the Duke of Roxburghe. Alexander Innes, a younger son of John Innes, Laird of Lenchars, came over to Ireland at the latter end of the reign of King Charles I., and married a daughter of Mr. Brice, or Bruce, of Carrickfergus.

William, the son of Alexander Innes, settled at Belfast, and had issue, Joseph Innes, a merchant there, and the Rev. William Innis, of Bangor, who married Jane Brice, and their son William married his cousin, Dorothea Brice, daughter of Captain Charles Brice, of Castle Chichester. William Brice Innes was the first possessor of Dromantine, which was purchased for him, by his guardians, in accordance with the will of his uncle, Joseph Innes.

The present representative of the family is Mr. Arthur Charles Innes, formerly Member of Parliament for Newry, to whose courtesy I am indebted for much information connected with this part of my work. In the vicinity of Dromantine, there is a lake frequented by an amazing number of wild fowl.

Drumgath parish contains the greater part of the town of Rath-

friland, and it has a population of 3,233 persons. A curious, antique bell was found in a bog in 1764, but I am not aware of how it has been disposed of.

To the south of the town of Rathfryland, there was, says Harris, a small horse-course, but it has been long disused. Drumgath is derived from Drumaghath, *i. e.* Ridge of the Dart.

The town of Rathfryland (Rathfraileann, or Freelansfort) stands on a lofty eminence, and the square, which forms a part of it, can only be approached, in any direction, by ascending a lofty hill. In 1871 it contained a population of 1,827 persons. It was founded, soon after the restoration, by Alderman Hawkins, of London, to whom the whole of the extensive manor was granted by Charles II., and it is now the property of the Hon. Mr. Meade, his lineal descendant. In this manor the jurisdiction extended to the large sum of £100. The public buildings are, Presbyterian Churches, with respective places of worship, for the Roman Catholics, Methodists, and covenanting religious denominations. There is also a Quaker meeting-house, and a dispensary for the Rathfryland district of the Newry Union, as well as a market-house, a police-barrack, and court-house.

On the summit of a hill, adjoining the town, stand the ruins of an old castle, anciently one of the mansions of the Magennises, Lords of Iveagh. The castle was pulled down by Mr. Hawkins, the first proprietor of the town, after the rebellion of 1641. The rectory formerly constituted part of the union of Clonallon, which formed the corps of the Chancellorship of Dromore. The church, situated in the town of Rathfryland, is a neat building, and the patronage was in the bishop, prior to the disendowment. There is a glebe-house and a large glebe, containing 150 acres of land.

The Rev. Henry Boyd, the translator of Dante, was long resident in the County of Down, and his dedication of the translation of Dante is dated from Rathfryland, in 1802, where he was then a curate. He died at Ballintemple, in 1832, in the parish to which he had been promoted, at a very advanced age.

The parish of Drumballyroney, in Irish *Druim bhaile ru Ruan-adha* (*i. e.* the Ridge of O'Roneystown) contains no town within its confines, except a small portion of Rathfryland. The population at present amounts to 6,809 persons. The principal houses are the glebe and Streamville.

The public buildings are the Episcopal, and Presbyterian Churches.

The fine ruins of Seafin Castle are situated in the Bann, and some ruins of other fastnesses throughout the parish are still remaining. Seafin was once a stronghold of the O'Neils.

The vicarage of Drumballyroney has been united, from time immemorial, with the rectory of Drumgooland.

Reeves says it is difficult to determine, to what edifice the name of the church of Drumlyn applies. It may, possibly, be to the parish we are describing, which is sometimes called Drom. The latter part of the name, or perhaps Drumgooland, is, in all likelihood, derived from the townland of Ballyroney.

The church is a neat but small edifice, with a tower, erected in 1800. The glebe-house was built in 1824, and the glebe was provided by the late Countess of Clanwilliam. It consists of twenty acres of land, subject to a rent of fifteen shillings per acre.

The parish of Clonallon, contains a great portion of bog and mountain, although there is a considerable amount of well cultivated land. Clonallon is called by Colgan, *Cluain Dallain i. e.*, Dallan's meadow, from Dallan Forgally, a poet of the sixth century. The population is 4,192.

The Church of Clonallon, or Kildallon, as it is termed by Father Edmund M'Cann, in his Irish Itinerary, is a neat, small, plain structure. The advowson of this living, as well as the manor of Narrowwater, anciently belonged to that branch of the Magennisses, who were enobled under the title of Viscount Iveagh. The Church is situated about two miles from Warrenpoint, and between it and that town stands, on a beautiful and commanding site, the Parsonage, called Clonallon House, built by Dr. Joshua Pullen who gave it the name of Marley, (which it long retained,) from the

abundance of marl found in the vicinity. The Rectory of Clonallon and Vicarage of Drumgath, formerly constituted a Union, but the latter has been separated into a distinct Rectory. In 1609, "Clandallon" was constituted the Corps of the Chancellorship, in the Chapter of Dromore.

This Church was first presided over by Conall, about the year 570. It is ancient, but in good repair. The present rector of Clonallon is the Rev. Solomon Richards, a member of a distinguished Wexford family, of English lineage, who is married to a daughter of Dr. Saurin, formerly a bishop of Dromore.

The small parish of Warrenpoint was at one time a part of Clonallon, but it has been recently separated. It has only an area of 1,125 acres. The patronage was in the Rector of Clonallon. The population is 2,121 persons.

The principal seats are Narrow-Water Castle, the mansion of Major Hall, the proprietor of Warrenpoint, the Rectory of Clonallen, and Tamnaharry House, formerly the residence of a member of the family of the Reillys of Scarva. Close to the ferry of Narrowwater there are the remains of a square castle. It has been well ascertained, that a castle was erected here, in 1212, by Lord Deputy Hugh de Lacy, which remained entire, until 1641, but the ruins in question are more probably those of a castle built long after, in 1663, by the Duke of Ormond. Not far distant, however, on Nun's Island, other considerable ruins formerly existed, but every vestige of them was destroyed, in deepening the channel of the river. They may possibly have been the remains of De Lacy's castle above referred to, or perhaps of some religious establishment giving name to the island.

The town of Warrenpoint is so called from having been built on the site of a rabbit-warren. In 1780, it contained only two houses and a few fishermen, but it has now become a considerable seaport, and a very favourite resort of seaside visitors. It has railway communication with Newry, and steamers ply to Glasgow, Liverpool, Dublin, and various other places. Several seats, villas, and cottages, ornament the vicinity of the town. Large vessels,

consigned to the port of Newry, are obliged to lie here off the harbour, where there are abundant depth of water, good anchorage, and complete shelter. Higher up the passage, is the Ganaway rock, a very dangerous shoal, on which, however, a perch has been erected, as a signal to mariners.

There is a good quay, capable of receiving ships of large burthen, which discharge their cargoes into smaller vessels, for the port of Newry.

The trade has recently much improved, and there is a large export of cattle, poultry, eggs, and oysters ; whilst numerous kinds of British and foreign produce are imported.

The public buildings are the Episcopal Church, a neat structure in the early English style, erected in 1825, and subsequently enlarged and improved. It contains two very handsome stained glass windows, in memory of the late Mrs. and Mr. Hall, of Narrowwater Castle. There are also places of worship for the Presbyterians, Roman Catholics, Unitarians, and Methodists, respectively, together with several hot and cold baths, and two hotels.

Narrowwater Castle, a very handsome mansion, in the Elizabethan style of architecture, was designed by Mr. Duff, of Newry, with much taste and ability.

The family of Hall is of ancient English extraction. William Hall came to Ireland, in the seventeenth century, and died at Redbay, in the County of Antrim. His son Francis settled at Mounthall, in the County of Down. The property descended in a direct line to Roger, Toby, Roger, Savage and Roger Hall, the last being succeeded by his brother, the late Major Samuel Madden Hall. After his demise, his nephew, Major James Hall, of the Royal Artillery, came into possession of the property, and is now the representative of the family.

The Church of Glentegys, Nester or Killowen is now the parish of Kilbroney. Prior, however, to the time of Harris, the Church had been transferred to Rostrevor. About 5,000 acres of this large parish are arable, the remainder consist of bog and mountain,

which afford very good sheep pasturage. The population amounts to 2,776 persons. There are two extensive bleach-greens, the property of the Martin family, adjacent to Rostrevor.

The earliest mansion was the Lodge, where, in the time of Harris, "Robert Ross had a large, good house, and well planted demesne."

The other mansions are numerous, including Old Hall, Mrs. Corry, relict of Mr. Smithson Corry of Newry,

Kilbroney House, Mr. Martin,

Cloonavin, Captain William Thomson,

Moygannon, Mr. Edward Greer,

Carpenham, the late Major Ford,

Fairy Hill, Lady Florence Balfour, descended from the Balfour's of Burleigh,

The Woodhouse, Mr. Smith Ramadge,

Moygannon Lodge, Mrs. Carvill,

Arno's Vale, Mr. Robert M'Blain,

Knockbarragh Park, Mr. Charles Von Steiglitz,

Drumsesk, Colonel Baumgartner,

Fintimara, Mr. George Guy,

Bellevue, Captain Cunningham Douglas,

Rosetta, Mr. Alexander Campbell,

Seapoint Cottage, Mr. James M'Farland,

Ballyedmond, the residence of Mr. Alexander Stewart, beautifully situated between the base of the mountains and the bay of Carlingford,

and Aghavilly Lodge, Mr. Watson.

There is a Cromlech in the parish, and in 1834, a spacious cave was discovered, filled with broken urns, containing calcined human bones. The beautiful and picturesque little town of Rostrevor, having a population of 653 persons, is situate on the bay of Carlingford, in a sheltered vale, at the foot of the mountains, which screen it from the east winds. It consists of several spacious streets, and the houses, including two good hotels, are commodious and well built. There is a pier for vessels of small



draughts of water, but the place has no extensive trade, which is principally restricted to the import of coals. In the time of the writer just mentioned, there were a small "kay," and saltworks, with a pottery of white earthenware, which was frequently exported to foreign parts; but these manufactures have long ceased to exist. Besides the parish church, there are also a Presbyterian and Roman Catholic place of worship. Here also is a holy well, and at a short distance, on the Warrenpoint-road, a handsome monument, erected to the memory of General Ross. Rostrevor was so called, according to Harris and other authorities, from an heiress called Rose Trevor, who married into the family of the Trevors. This derivation has been questioned, and the name deduced from the Irish Ros, signifying agreeable, or brushwood, and in either sense applicable. The first Rose Trevor, whom I have been able to trace, was Rose, daughter of Marcus Trevor, Lord Dungannon, who died in 1621. She married Nicholas Purcell, titular Baron of Loughmore. Sir Edward Trevor, in his will, made in 1641, styles himself a prisoner in Newry, but late of Rostrevor. It was anciently called Castle Roe, or Rory, being occupied by Rory, one of the family of Magennis. Some remains of the castle, near the town, still exist. Rostrevor is much prized as a residence for invalids, on account of the mildness of its climate.

The family of Ross, of Rostrevor, is descended from Sir David Ross, a Commissioner of Ulster, under James I., whose descendants were David Thomas, David Robert, David Ross of Bladensburg, who married the Hon. Harriett Margaret Skeffington, sister of the late Viscount Massereene and Ferrard.

After the death of David Ross, Governor of Tobago, unfortunately killed by the fall of his carriage over a precipice, the Rostrevor part of his property was purchased by Ross, of Bladensburg; but the old family mansion of the Lodge fell into other hands, and it is now the property of the Hon. Albert Canning.

Major-General Robert Ross was born in 1766, and served with great credit in Holland, Egypt, Italy, Spain, France, and America.

He attacked and dispersed the American forces at Bladensburg, and the same day entered Washington. He fell at Baltimore in 1814. A handsome pillar, with suitable inscriptions, has been erected to his memory, by the inhabitants of the County of Down, near Rostrevor, another by his brother officers of the 20th Regiment, in St. Paul's Cathedral, and a third over his grave in Halifax, Nova Scotia, by the army in that command.

The family of Canning was of English extraction, the name being derived from the manor of Bishop Canning's in Wiltshire. A member of this family, George Canning, of Coleraine, a son of Richard Canning, of Foxcote, in Warwickshire, obtained a grant of the manor of Garvagh, and one of his descendants, George Canning, was raised to the peerage in 1818, as Baron Garvagh. The celebrated George, Earl Canning, and Sir Stratford Canning, so long the distinguished ambassador to the Ottoman Porte, afterwards created Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe, were branches of this family. The Hon. Albert Stratford George Canning, proprietor of the Lodge at Rostrevor, is the surviving brother of Charles Henry Spencer George, the second Baron Garvagh.

On the mountain above Rostrevor Lodge, at a lofty elevation, there is a stone of very large dimensions, termed *Cloc Mohr*, *i. e.*, the big stone. It varies in height, at different parts, from five to eight feet, and it has a circumference of thirty-eight feet.

Kilbroney was, in ancient times, a mensal of the Bishop of Dromore. The church, which is situated in the town of Rostrevor, is a handsome edifice, with lofty tower and pinnacles,\* erected at a cost of £2,000. The patronage of the vicarage was formerly vested in the Bishop, in whom the rectory is impropriate. There is a small glebe and a commodious glebe-house. The ruins of the old church are on the Hilltown-road, about half-a-mile from the town, where a clochban, or white bell, and a cut-stone cross were discovered some years ago. A holy well, called St. Bridget's Well,

\* Dowdall's Registry, p. 249.

Reeves' p. 49.

Ulst. Inq. No. 2, Jac. I. Down.

is near the spot. Kilbroney is so called, as the church of Bronagh, a female saint, in Irish "Cillbronagh."

The church of Clondyme, now the parish of Clonduff, is, with the exception of about 1,000 acres of mountain and bog, either good arable or pasture land. The only town, within its confines, is Hilltown, about a mile from which is the first bleach-ground on the river Bann. The lofty Eagle Mountain is at the southern extremity of the parish. A very handsome antiquated chalice, now in the possession of Mr. A. Murphy, of Rathfryland, and an ancient quern, the property of the Rev. J. Beers, were dug up in this parish, some years ago.

Hilltown derives its name from the Downshire family, but in the grant made to them, it is called Carquillan. The population is 253. It has a police-barrack, church, and market-house, the market being held on Saturday.

The principal houses in the parish are the rectory, Cabra Castle, and Kings Hill. Cabra Castle, the residence of Mr. Gartlan, was recently erected on the site of an ancient mansion of the Magennis family.

About equi-distant from Hilltown and Rathfryland is King Hill, a family residence, situate on the estate of Mrs. Frances Newell Barron of Dublin, and of Marlfield, in the County of Wexford. On this property there is a fort, having underneath, one of these remarkable caves before adverted to. There is also an ancient cemetery in the townland of King Hill. The Newell family is of English lineage. The great grandfather of Mrs. Baron was a governor of the County Down, and died in the old castle of Newcastle, which stood on an estate which he possessed there. The father of this gentleman, Mr. John Newell, was one of the six-clerks in the Irish Court of Chancery, and the family have now been, for more than two hundred years, extensive landed proprietors in this county, and formerly owners of estates in Armagh also. The father of Mrs. Baron, a commander in the British navy, was a magistrate and deputy-governor of the County of Down, and his property, after the death of Mrs. Barron, descends to her only

son, who takes the name of Newell. The Newells have the arms and crest of the Nevilles of Essex, the V and W, in old English, being often used interchangeably.

I should here observe, that I am much indebted to Mrs. Barron for the information obligingly communicated to me on several points.

Clonduff was anciently part of the possessions of the Abbey of Bangor, and by an inquisition, taken in 1605, it was found to comprise twenty-two townlands, which were (with the exception of four) under the jurisdiction of the Manor Court of Rathfryland. The number of townlands now in the parish is twenty-five. The modern church is situated at Hilltown.

John and Felix O'Neil, supposed to have been the last male descendants of the powerful sept of Tirowen, are interred in the parish burying-ground, which, with the ruins of the old church, was situated about half-a-mile east of Hilltown, in the townland of Ballyoughian. This townland, with Ballynary, Ballymaghery, and Leitrim are called the four towns of Clonduff, and form the rectory, the incumbent being only vicar of the remainder of the parish. At the dissolution, the rectory and advowson of Clonduff, then comprising twenty-one townlands in "Evagh" (Iveagh) still belonged to the Abbey of Bangor. Clonduff signifies Cluain daimh (dav), the meadow of the ox. The present population amounts to 6,038.

The parish of Drumgooland, from Druim gualanna, Golan's ridge, formed, with the vicarage of Drumballyroney, the union of Drumgooland, and of the tithes, £380 were payable to the incumbent, £59 to the bishop, who had the patronage, and the remainder to the dean of the diocese.

The land is only of medium quality, three thousand acres consisting of mountain and bog.

The population amounts to 7,693.

In the gable of the schoolhouse at Drumgooland, there is a large, ancient, and perfect stone cross. The plinth is of porphyry, and the chapter and cross of granite. At Mullaslane, there are four

large upright stones, and near them a fifth, but of smaller dimensions, no doubt, the remnant of a Cromlech. There is a stone altar in the townland of Leganany, and in an adjacent field, there lies a single slab of enormous size, possibly the covering stone of the the altar. There is an old graveyard in the townland of Drumlee, the last resting-place of many of the former residents in the vicinity. Drumgooland probably represents the ancient church of Drumlyn. The church is a large, handsome building, in the early English style, constructed in 1822. It contains a handsome monument, erected to the memory of the Rev. T. Tighe, who was for 42 years rector of the parish. The glebe-house is in the parish of Drumballyroney.

The principal houses are the Cottage and Ballyward Lodge, the residence of Captain John Leslie, Mr. Beers, the father of the present proprietor, having assumed the name of Leslie, on account of the bequest of several properties, by a relative of that name.

The parish of Kilcoo was anciently called Kilchow. Slieu Donard, the loftiest mountain in the county, is within its confines. Tollymore Park, the seat of the Earl of Roden, is situate in a demesne of great and picturesque beauty. The house, a plain but handsome structure, was erected by the third Earl of Roden, who also built an additional bridge over the River Shimna, which traverses the demesne, near Tollymore. The Earl of Limerick, formerly the proprietor of the estate, had two deer-parks lying on the skirts of Slieve Neu and Slieve Snavan. These are now, in a great part, covered with extensive plantations. There are several other handsome mansions in the parish, including Donard Lodge, erected in 1830, and occupied by Priscilla, Viscountess Annesley; Burrenwood Cottage, the property of the Hon. Mr. Meade, a branch of the Clanwilliam family; Waterfoot, belonging to Mr. William Nevin Wallace; Brook Cottage, the residence of Mr. William Beers; Rowallen, the property of the late Mr. William Humphreys, of Ballyhaise, in the County of Cavan, who was married to a sister of Lady Annesley; and Ashleigh, belonging to the Rev. William Slacke; with two or three others.



The Slacke family, of whom the Rev. William Slacke is now the representative, is of English lineage, three brothers having come over, and purchased property in different parts of Ireland, in the last century.

Bryansford is a picturesque little town, closely adjoining Tollymore Park, and, having the attraction of a comfortable hotel, it has long been visited on account of its beautiful and romantic scenery.

Kilcoo forms part of the union of Kilkeel. The church, with the village of Kilcoo, was burnt in 1641. In 1712 a church was built at Bryansford, and enlarged in 1806, when a handsome tower was erected. At the time Harris wrote, he describes as existing at Newcastle a house and well-improved demesne, the property of Edward Matthews, Esq., which had formerly belonged to the Lords of Iveagh, having been built by Felix Magennis in 1588, as appeared by an inscription over the front door, but, according to other authorities, it was erected in the 13th or 14th century, and only rebuilt by Magennis at the date mentioned. The castle was forfeited in the rebellion of 1641, and subsequently demolished by Cromwell.

In April, 1642, Sir James Montgomery had a strong garrison in it, from whence he laid siege to Newcastle, but, by the superior strength of the Irish there assembled, he was forced to raise the siege, and he retreated to the Blackstaff Bridge, with about 1,100 men. Here he completely routed the enemy, who had attacked him with a force of 3,000 men; after which he strengthened and provisioned the castle.

A handsome church, with a spire at the east end, has been erected, of late years, by the Earl of Annesley, at a cost of £1,500, in the town of Newcastle, so called in contradistinction to the old castle.

After its forfeiture, Newcastle was granted to Mr. Robert Hawkins Magill, and subsequently to Mr. Matthews, ultimately coming into the possession of the Annesley family, when it was converted into a dwelling-house. The ruins were removed for the erection of a hotel, which now stands upon the site, and no trace



of the old castle remains, except a part of the stables, and a portion of the garden wall.

The population of the parish of Kilcoo, including 764 residents in Newcastle, amounts to 4,606 persons. Kilcoo derives its name from the Irish "Cill a chumhaid," *i. e.*, the church of grief.

Tollymore Lodge, situated in a picturesque and beautiful demesne, is the residence of Robert Jocelyn, fourth Earl of Roden, and grandson of Robert Jocelyn, the third Earl, and son of Viscount Jocelyn, who died in 1854, and Lady Frances Elizabeth Cowper, a daughter of the fifth Earl Cowper. Lady Elizabeth Frances Charlotte, a daughter of the third Earl, and his wife, the Hon. Maria Frances Catherine Stapleton, a daughter of Lord Le Despencer, was married to Viscount Powerscourt, and after his death to the fourth Marquis of Londonderry. Robert, the third Earl, after the death of his first wife, married Clementina Janet, widow of Captain Robert Reilly, of the Madras army, and of the family of Scarva. The Jocelyns are of very ancient English lineage, coming originally from France, Sir Gilbert de Jocelyn having been a companion in arms with the Conqueror. The creations were—Baronet in England, 1665; Baron Clanbrassil, of the United Kingdom, 1821; Baron Newport, 1743; Viscount Jocelyn, 1755; and Earl Roden, 1771, all in the Peerage of Ireland.

The church of Rath, now the parish of Maghera, contains a population, including 93 residents in the village of Maghera, of 909 persons. The name is formed by adding the prefix Machaire, thus forming the appellation of Machaire Rath, otherwise Magheryragh, or Magherera, termed in the Terrier Rathra Matherira, in Irish Macharaith, the plain of the rath or fort.

The original names were Rath-murbhuilg, and Murbuilg, afterwards Murlough, which is now the denomination of two townlands, one in this, and the other in Kilmeegan parish, on the bay of Dundrum.

The church is a small edifice, (about a quarter of a mile from the village), built in 1825; and adjacent are the ruins of the ancient church and round tower.

About a mile from the church there is a large Cromlech, consisting of a table stone, resting on three perpendicular pillars, and near the spot is a large upright stone, thirteen feet in height, and also a large block.

Keane, in his "Towers and Temples of Ancient Ireland," offers the suggestion that Maghera was the same as Feghdagobha, mentioned by Archdall, and described as being in the barony of Iveagh, on the river Bann. The surmise of Keane is, so far, countenanced, by the fact of Maghera being situated in the barony named on the river Ballybannan.

The principal houses in this small parish are the Manor House, Shimna Lodge, and the Rectory, occupied, respectively, by Mr. D'Espalier, Mr. Vesey E. Knox, a relative of the Ranfurly family, and the incumbent.

The round tower was overturned in a great storm, and lay along for a lengthened period, in an unbroken mass, owing to the extraordinary tenacity of the cement used in its construction. The interior was cleared out at one time by directions of the Marquis of Downshire. Several human bones, some of large dimensions, and charred pieces of wood and bones, were found about ten feet from the surface.

The Parish of Kilmegan has, including the residents in the town or Castlewellan and Dundrum, a population of 5,833 persons, of whom 608 are residents in the town of Annsborough, 293 in Dundrum, and 746 in Castlewellan. It forms a part of the Union of Kilkeel, and the patrons formerly were the Earl of Kilmorey, and the Marquis of Anglesea. There is a handsome Church adjoining the town erected by the late Earl of Annesley. The structure, which has a lofty and graceful spire, is in the Gothic style, the whole costing about £7,000.

William Richard, the late Earl Annesley, Viscount Glerawly, and Baron Annesley, of Castlewellan, was born in 1830, and died in 1874.

The family of Annesley derives its name from the Lordship of Anneslei in the county of Nottingham. In the reign of Queen

Elizabeth, Robert Annesley became a partaker in the plantation of Munster, and his son, Sir Francis Annesley, Knight, filled various high situations in Ireland, and was created Baron Mountnorris in 1628. He also received a reversionary grant, by patent, of the Irish Viscounty of Valentia. The Hon. Francis Annesley, eldest son of the first Lord Valentia, fixed his abode in the vicinity of Castlewellan. His son, Mr. Francis Annesley, was one of the trustees for the sale of estates in Ireland in the reign of William III. The sixth son of this gentleman, William Annesley, was created Baron Annesley, of Castlewellan in 1758, and Viscount Glerawly in 1766. He was succeeded by his son Francis Charles, and his son and successor of the same name, was raised to the Earldom of Annesley. His brother Richard, the second Earl, succeeded him, and his son and grandson, both called William Richard, followed in succession, the latter being the late Peer, who died unmarried, and was succeeded by his eldest brother, the Hon. Hugh Annesley, who served in the Scots Fusilier Guards, and was wounded at the Cape, and the battle of Alma.

Catherine Mary, eldest daughter of Charles Annesley, a son of Richard, the second Earl, is married to Mr. William Nevin Wallace, of Downpatrick and Newcastle.

The townland of Murlough, lying along the coast, is almost entirely covered with sea-blown sand.



AN ANCIENT VIEW OF THE CROMLECH AT SLIDDERYFORD.

There are two cromlechs in the parish, viz., that at Slidderyford, near Dundrum, and the other at Slievenaboiltrough, near a small lake.

The principal seats are the Castle of the Earl of Annesley, and the mansion of Mr. William Young, of Ballywillwill. The house of Mr. John Reed Allen, Mountpanther, of the Marquis of Downshire, Murlough House, of Mr. Murland Woodlawn, of Mr. Charles Murland, Ardnabannon, of Mr. James Murland, Woodlodge; of Mr. Wm. Henry Murland, Greenvale; and The Agency, Mr. Shaw.

The magnificent mansion of Earl Annesley, stands in the immediate vicinity of Castlewellan, on the shores of a very pretty lake abounding with trout. The grounds contain many rare and fine shrubs, amongst which are Wellingtonias, about thirty feet high, a *rhodendron ponticum*, about 207 feet in circumference, and nearly twenty feet in height, an *auracaria imbricata*, thirty, and a *juniperus recurva*, eighteen feet, in height, and seventy-five feet in circumference, a pyramidal *cotoneaster microphylla*, measuring nearly forty feet in circumference, and fifteen in height, and a *cryptomeria japonica*, which has attained very large dimensions, being sixty feet in circumference, and twenty-four feet high.

It is not known when Mount Panther was erected, but it has been added to, from time to time. About 130 years ago, it was the residence of Dr. Matthews, Rector of the parish, where the celebrated Dr. Delaney, the friend of Swift, and then Dean of Down, was a frequent guest. In 1743, it was improved by the Rev. Bernard Ward, the Rector, and after him it was occupied by John Smith, Esquire. But the greatest improvements in the mansion were commenced, when it became the residence of Francis Charles, Viscount Glerawly, afterwards the Earl Annesley, between the year 1770 and 1780. After his death there, in 1803, it was successively occupied by the Rev. C. W. Moore, and Major Rainey, and in 1832 it passed, by purchase, to the present proprietor, Mr. John Reed Allen.

The late Rev. George Henry M'Dowell Johnston, of Bally-

willwill, who married Lady Anna, daughter of Earl Annesley, was of Scotch lineage, but his ancestors had been settled at Ballywillwill, for many years. From property in Wigtonshire, acquired through Colonel M'Dowell, he assumed that name in conjunction with his own. Mr. Johnston died in 1864, and was succeeded by his nephew, the Rev. William Young, who died in 1872, being succeeded by Mr. William Young, his eldest surviving son, by Catherine, daughter of Sir Neal O'Donel, and grand-daughter of a former Earl Annesley.

The town of Dundrum has been much improved by the successive proprietors, many good houses and a spacious and commodious hotel, having been erected. A convenient quay for the embarkation of grain and the unloading of coals has also been constructed.

Dr. Thomas Smith, who was consecrated Bishop of Limerick in 1695, was a native of Dundrum.

Dundrum Bay lies mostly on clean ground, and the depth of water is moderate, but it is exposed to gusts of wind from the Mourne mountains. Winds from the South and South-east send in a great sea, which makes it unadvisable to stop here, unless with north and north-east winds. A small vessel, if embayed with the wind from the southward, might take refuge, at high water, behind the pier of Newcastle, or at the creek of Rossglass, in easterly winds. A vessel within the Cow and Calf Rocks, a dangerous ledge off Tyrella, should run behind Craigalea for shelter. Though well marked with perches and buoys, the entrance to Dundrum harbour is intricate, demanding much caution.

At an early period, Dundrum was granted to the Prior of Down, who retained it until the dissolution of the abbey. Subsequently the reversion of the house and mansion, after the forfeiture of Magennis, was granted to Gerald, Earl of Kildare. The Viscount Kinsale, son of this Earl, disposed of the property to Sir Francis Blundell. Sir Francis Blondville or Blundell, the founder of the Irish branch of this family, was surveyor to the King, in Ireland, in 1610. In 1625, he was appointed to the office of Treasurer,



and General Receiver. About the year 1627, Thomas Cromwell, afterwards Earl of Ardglass, and governor of Lecale, sold to Sir William Blundell, a son of Sir Francis, the manor or lordship of Dundrum, and he obtained a license for a weekly market, and two fairs in the year. The fourth and last Baronet, Sir Montague Blundell, who was born in 1689, was created Baron of Edenderry, and Viscount Blundell, but on his death, in 1756, these titles expired. From the Blundells, Dundrum passed by intermarriage to the Downshire family, in whose possession it still remains.

The Castle, situated on a lofty hill, was originally built by John de Courcy, for the Knights Templars, who possessed it until their overthrow in 1313. The keep is a round tower, about fifty feet in circumference, and outside the walls are the ruins of an ancient dwelling-house, formerly occupied by the Blundell family, and last inhabited by one of their agents, a Mr. Gwynn.

Dundrum is the Dundroma of the Annals of the Four Masters, signifying the Fort on the Hill, but the original fort, which occupied the site of the present Castle, has long disappeared. The rock, on which the Castle of Dundrum is situated, was a military position from the earliest times.

A severe conflict took place at Dundrum in 1147, between the Ulidians and the Cinel Eoghan, and Airghitell, and a century later the place was termed Dundroma Dairinne, or the fort of Darinne Ridge, where a battle had been fought between the Irish, and their Anglo-Norman invaders.

In 1517, the Earl of Kildare, then Lord Deputy, took Dundrum by storm from the Irish, who had driven out the English garrison sometime before. Subsequently it was seized and repaired by the Magennises, from whom it was again retaken, with several other castles, by Lord Deputy Gray, in 1538.

It afterwards fell into the hands of Phelim McEvor Magennis, who was obliged to yield it to Lord Mountjoy, in 1601.

\* Erc's Patent Rolls. Tempore Jac. I. vol. i. pp. 751, 752.



Castlewellan is well built, consisting of an upper and lower square, connected by streets, mostly of neat structure. It is divided into the Old Town and New Town.

Besides the Episcopal Church, there are also two Presbyterian Churches, a Roman Catholic Chapel, a Market-house and Court-house in the town. Barracks capable of accommodating two companies of infantry have long been disused.

The weekly market is held on Monday.

The bleaching of linen was first introduced here by Mr. Moffat in 1749. The bleaching grounds of Messrs. Steel are large, and capable of finishing 8,000 pieces in the year. The spinning and weaving mills and bleaching grounds of the Messrs. Murland, in which both steam and water power are made available, are of the most extensive description, being capable of finishing 20,000 pieces of linen annually, and giving employment to a large number of people.

A branch of the Northern Banking Company has been established in Castlewellan, and the town gives the secondary title of baron to Earl Annesley.

Kilmegan deduces its name from Cill Mhiagain, *i. e.* St. Megan's Church.

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## CHAPTER XXII.

### Topography of the Barony of Lower Iveagh.

THE ancient territory of Hyveach or Evagh comprehended the district now forming the Baronies of Lower and Upper Iveagh, each of which has been subsequently divided into an Upper and Lower half barony.

It was sometimes termed the Magennis Country, and it was in Queen Elizabeth's time governed by Sir Hugh Magennis, quaintly described as the "civillest of all the Irish in those parts." This chieftain was brought over, by Sir Nicholas Bagnal, from paying the tribute termed "Bonaught" to the sept of the O'Neils, and he then took his lands by letters patent from the Crown, to be held by English tenures, to him and his heirs male. He wore the English dress on every festival day, and he was able to bring into the field sixty horsemen and about eighty foot. The family of Magennis retained their power until the rebellion of 1641, when a period was put to their greatness, although in the reign of James II., they had the prospect of regaining possession of their estates, if the Acts of Settlement and Explanation had been carried into execution.

The name Magennis or Mac Enos (in Irish Macaongusa) is derived from that of the ancestor of the sept, Aongus, son of Ardith. In the twelfth century the Magennises became the most powerful family in Iveagh, superseding the sept of O'Haideth, who had previously exercised the chief authority in that part of the country.

In old times the entrance into Iveagh, from the County of

Antrim, was by a bridge built over a river issuing from Lough Heney, then called the Garricleugh.

At an early date, part of the Barony of Lower Iveagh was included in Kinelarty, but, as subsequently arranged, the boundaries of both are now distinctly defined. In the Down Survey, the measurements of the Barony of "Evagh," and Kinelarty, the only parts of the County included in it, are enumerated as follows :—

16,751 acres of land profitable ; 2572 unprofitable ; commons, 142 acres ; and glebe and church lands, 8807 acres, comprising in all 28,330 acres.

The population of Lower Iveagh, in 1871, amounted to 55,372 persons.

The Parish of Hillsborough was formerly called Crumlin (Cruimghlinn, pronounced Crumlin), a term which signifies the crooked glen, but its present name was derived from a fort or castle erected by Sir Arthur Hill, in the reign of Charles I. This castle was made a royal fortress by Charles II., in 1660, who appointed Sir Arthur, and his heirs, hereditary constables, with twenty-four wardens under their command. The daily pay fixed for the constable was three shillings and four pence, and six pence for each of the wardens.

The present small castle was formerly merely the entrance to the more extensive fortification. The room over the gateway is elegantly fitted up in the ancient style, and the uniform of the warders, or castlemen, as they are called, remains nearly unchanged since their first appointment, being fashioned in the quaint style of the Dutch guards, of the times of William III., only a little modernized.\*

Within the walls of a square fort, ornamented with bastions, there is a beautiful green, and a walk round the ramparts. King William, who landed at Carrickfergus on the 14th of June, slept here, on his way to the Boyne, on the nights of the 20th and 21st

\* Dubourdieu's Survey, p. 301.

of that month, and during his stay, he signed the document warranting the payment of the *Regium Donum*, or royal grant, to the Presbyterian ministers in Ireland. Here also he issued the orders to his army to take the field, in a campaign which exercised such momentous results on the destinies of these kingdoms.

The modern castle is the residence of the family, in the town of Hillsborough. On a high hill to the left of the road, leading to Dromore, stands a lofty monument, erected by public subscription, to the memory of Arthur, third Marquis of Downshire; and in front of the entrance to the church, within the town, another, commemorative of the fourth marquis.

The parish of Hillsborough, named from the Hill family, has a population of 3362 persons, exclusive of the town of Hillsborough. The town is the property of the Marquis of Downshire, which includes in it the district of Kilwarlin, not strictly defined, and varying at different periods. In 1586 Lord Burghley describes it as "Kilwarlyn bounding on Kilultagh, the capten thereof being by sirname a McGenis, to the north, and on Kinelarty on the east." The first property acquired by the Downshire family here consisted of five townlands, transferred, in 1611, to Colonel Moyses Hill by "Bryan McRowry Magennes," then resident at Edenticullo, near where the town of Hillsborough now stands, and large accessions of land were soon after acquired from the same family. In the Down Survey Petty describes "Kilwarling" as a parish synonymous with Crumlin, and as having at that time no buildings on it, but merely creaghts or hurdles. Kilwarlin at an early day comprised forty-five townlands in the parishes of Hillsborough, Moira, Annahilt, and Blaris, and to these were soon added six townlands in the parish of Dromore, and two in Dromara.

In an old map of 1572, and in Blean's Universal Atlas, this district is called Kilwarney, by Ware in his *Annals Killwarda*, and in Collin's *State Papers*, Killwarlin. It is described as bordering on "Kilultoe," which was, at one time, included in the County of Down, being thus referred to by an ancient writer:—"Kilultoe is a very fast country, full of wood and bog. It

bordereth on "Loagh Eagh" and Clanbrassel, and the captain thereof is one Cormoch O'Neil, who in 1757 was able to make twenty horsemen, and one hundred kern."

Sir William Brereton, who travelled in Ireland in 1635, refers to the plantation of Mr. Arthur Hill, son and heir of Sir Moyses Hill, on which at that time "many Lanckashire and Yorkshire men were sitting at a rack rent, and paying five or six shillings an acre for good ploughing land." This plantation was partly in Down, and partly in Antrim, but Sir William makes no allusion to the town of Hillsborough, which was probably not built at the time of his visit.

The town consists of a square, and several good streets, and contains a population of 883 persons. The buildings of a public nature are the market-house, court-house, school-house, hotel, dispensary, Presbyterian church, loan fund and savings bank, established in 1832.

About a mile from the town, there is a small place of worship belonging to the Society of Friends. Most if not all these structures have been erected at the cost of the Downshire family.

The market place is spacious, and contains commodious shambles, and grain stores.

The markets, not now well attended, are held on Wednesdays.

A brewery was established in 1810, and a large distillery in the vicinity, in 1826, which were beneficially worked for a considerable length of time, but they have both been relinquished for several years, the buildings of the latter having been converted into a woollen factory.

The Lagan canal passes at some distance from the town, having a commodious landing wharf for coals, timber, and other merchandise.

The town of Hillsborough, and the western portion of the town land of the Maze, adjoining, were colonized by natives of England, some of whose descendants still remain in the district.

By a charter of Charles I., a corporation was established in

Hillsborough, consisting of a sovereign, burgesses, and freemen, with a recorder, who also discharged the functions of town clerk.

The sovereign was annually elected from amongst the burgesses, and with his deputy, he also performed the duties of coroner for the borough. During his year of office, and for one year afterwards, he was qualified as a justice of peace, within the bounds of his jurisdiction.

The sovereign and burgesses returned two members to the Irish Parliament, and on the disfranchisement, at the time of the Union, a compensation of £15,000 was awarded to the Marquis of Downshire of that day, after which the borough, county, and record court were discontinued.

Courts leet and courts baron were formerly held by the seneschal of the Marquis of Downshire, for the extensive manor of Kilwarlin, which consisted of two more ancient ones, viz., Hillsborough and "Growle," and extended over Annahilt, Dromore, Moira, and certain lands in Dromara.

The lands in Dromara were forfeited by the Magennis family, and subsequently granted to Colonel Hill by Charles II.

Hillsborough was formerly the head of a union, comprising also Drumbeg, Drumbo, and Kildief, and constituting the corps of the Archdeaconry, which is formed of Kildief alone, since the dissolution of the Union in 1834.

In ancient times, the Deanery of Dalboyn called Dalvanie in the Terrier, and Delwin in the Ulster Visitation, embraced a tract lying on either side of the Lagan, from Spence's bridge, near Moira, to the Drumbridge, near Belfast, conterminal with the portion of Buin, and the rural deaneries of Hillsborough and Lisburn.

The Church of Hillsborough formerly stood at the bottom of Barrack hill, near the bridge at the end of the town, but a new church was finished, and consecrated in 1662, in a more commodious site, and dedicated to St. Malachias, the old church of Crumlin having lain in ruins from the time of Queen Elizabeth. The entire cost was defrayed by Colonel Arthur Hill. This



edifice was succeeded by the erection of the present Church, a very elegant structure, consisting of a nave and cross aisles. The tower, which is upwards of 100 feet high, and the steeple, 200 feet more, form a well-proportioned object, visible at a great distance. It is flanked by two smaller towers. The interior is quite equal to the exterior, in style and design. The windows are all of stained glass, and the east window is especially deserving of notice, for its design, and beautiful colouring.

There are several handsome marble monuments in the interior, one executed by Nollekens, as a memorial of Archdeacon Leslie, and another in memory of William Edmund Reilly, a former agent of the Marquis of Downshire, and member of the family of the Reillys of Scarva. In a mausoleum under the Church, most of the family of Hill have been interred.

At the opening of this new Church in 1773, the sermon was preached by the then Archdeacon Benson, the maternal great-grandfather of the writer of the present work. The Church has the advantage of a very fine toned organ, and a complete peal of bells of great power and sweetness, the entire cost of the whole having been defrayed by the first Marquis of Downshire. There are two other Churches in this parish, viz :—St. James, and St. John's, as well as a Moravian Church, a Quaker Meeting House, and a small Roman Catholic Chapel.

The houses of Downshire and Dungannon had a common progenitor in Michael Hill, of the Hillsborough family, who married the only daughter of Sir John Trevor of Brynkinalt, in Denbighshire. The vicinity and barony of Dungannon became extinct in 1862, on the demise of Arthur, the third Viscount, who had considerable properties in the County of Down. Lord Edwin Hill Trevor, the brother of a former Marquis of Downshire, became heir, and occupies the ancestral residence at Brynkinalt in North Wales, but the title lapsed. The Marquis of Downshire, the head of the house, is a direct descendant of

Sir Moyses Hill, knight, of the distinguished lineage of the Hills of Devonshire, themselves of Norman ancestry, and bearing originally the name of de la Montayne. Sir Moyses, who was equally distinguished as a soldier and a magistrate, came over to Ireland with the Earl of Essex in 1573. He became Governor of Olderfleet Castle, and Provost Mareschal of Ulster; and had for his first wife, Anne, sister of the celebrated Sorley Boy Macdonnell. Sir Moyses died in 1629, and was succeeded by his son Peter, who married the daughter of Sorley Boy. Arthur of Crumlin, raised a regiment in 1641, under Charles I., and sat in Parliament, both before and after the death of Cromwell. Next in succession came Moyses, a Lieutenant-Colonel in the army, who married his cousin Anne, and died in 1670. William Hill succeeded at the death of Moyses, his half-brother, and was attainted by James II., but restored by William III., and married, secondly, Mary, eldest daughter of Sir Marcus Trevor, created Viscount Dungannon, in 1662. William Hill was followed in the succession by his son Michael, who was Lord Lieutenant and *custos rotulorum* of Down. He married Anne, daughter and heiress of Sir John Trevor, of Brynkinalt, in Denbighshire, and was subsequently created Baron Hill of Olderfleet, and Viscount Dungannon in Ireland.

Michael Hill had two sons, Trevor and Arthur. Trevor succeeded his father, and Arthur, inheriting the estates of his maternal grandfather, assumed the name of Trevor, and was created Viscount Dungannon.

Trevor Hill, born in 1693, was elevated to the peerage of Ireland in 1717, as Baron Hill of Kilwarlin, and Viscount Hillsborough. He was succeeded by his son Wills, created Viscount Dungannon, and Earl of Hillsborough in 1751, and enrolled amongst the British Peers as Baron Harwich, of Harwich, in the County of Essex. In 1772, he was advanced to a British Viscounty and Earldom, by the titles of Viscount Fairford, and Earl of Hillsborough, and finally created Marquis of Downshire in 1789. After holding other high offices, he was nomin-

ated Secretary of State for the Colonies, in 1768. He resigned in 1772, but was re-appointed in 1779, and thus became one of the principals in the administration, during the American war of independence. He married a sister of the first Duke of Leinster, and died in 1792, being followed in the succession by his son Arthur, the second Marquis, born in 1753, who married Mary, sole heir of the Hon. Martyn Sandys, and subsequently of her uncle, Baron Sandys of Ombersley, and in 1802, she was created Baroness Sandys, with remainder to her second and younger sons, in succession. The second Marquis was succeeded by his eldest son, Arthur Blundell Sandys Trumbull, the third Marquis, who married a daughter of the Earl of Plymouth. His brothers, Lords George and Arthur, embraced the profession of arms, and the latter served both in the Peninsular war, and at Waterloo. He was colonel of the Scots Greys, and some years prior to his death, succeeded to the barony of Sandys. The next in succession was Arthur Wills Blundell Sandys Trumbull Windsor, eldest son of the third Marquis, who married a daughter of Lord Combermere, and was followed in the succession, by his son Arthur, who died young, leaving an only son Arthur, the present Marquis, an infant minor. It thus appears that there were three peerages in this family, viz : a Marquisate, Viscounty, and Baronetage.

The mansions of the Marquis of Downshire are East Hampstead Park, in Berkshire, and Hillsborough Castle, and Dundrum House, in the County of Down.

The castle at Hillsborough is situated in the smaller of two demesnes adjacent to the town. Nearly adjoining is the Archdeaconry, a neat and commodious residence, at present occupied by the Venerable Archdeacon Gibbs.

The parish of Annahilt contains a population of 2,416 persons.

The principal houses in the parish are Larchfield, Loughaghery, and the Rectory, at present occupied by the Rev. John Gordon, a brother of Mr. Gordon, of Florida Manor.

Larchfield was long the residence of the Mussenden family, but it has recently passed by purchase into the possession of Mr. Ogilvy Graham, a merchant in Belfast. The family of de Mussenden is of great antiquity, having come into England with William the Conqueror, and obtained possession of the Lordship and lands of Mussenden, or Missenden, in Buckinghamshire. One of the descendants, the Rev. Francis Mussenden, came over to Ireland from Suffolk, in 1670, and settled at Hillsborough, and Francis, one of his sons, Vicar-General of Down and Connor, was the ancestor of the family at Larchfield, whose present representative is Major William Mussenden, of the 8th Hussars. The descendants of Francis Mussenden, in direct succession, were Daniel, William, Daniel of Larchfield, William, William, and the present Major Mussenden.

The living of Annahilt was, in the early part of the present century, held by the Rev. John Dubourdieu, who was the son of Saumarez Dubourdieu, and grandson of John Dubourdieu, chaplain of Prince Schomberg, whom he accompanied to the Boyne.\*

The Reverend John Dubourdieu was successively Rector of Annahilt, and Rathfriland, where he died early in the present century. He was possessed of much information, and considerable literary ability, as shewn by his two principal works, the Statistical Surveys of the Counties of Down, and of Antrim.

His family was descended from the noble house of De Brins, Lords of Bourdieu, in a direct line. In the townland of Ballycroon, alms houses for ten aged men, and as many women, with a pension to each of £3 per annum, were erected by a bequest of Mr. Sharland, an English gentleman, early in the present century. Closely adjoining these alms houses, is the dispensary of the Annahilt district, of the Lisburn Poor Law Union.

The Church, as stated by Harris, was built by Archdeacon Thomas Smith, the then Rector, and consecrated on St. Peter's

\* The *Irish Times*, Dublin Newspaper, 1872.

day, 1741, at which period, there was only one Roman Catholic householder in the parish.

The Annahilt burial-ground lies around the Church, on the site of an ancient fort, which is the innermost of four enclosures, the whole occupying about nine acres, and sloping to the east with a regular glacis. In a copy of the "Nova taxatio," (dated the 18th of July, 1616), of the united diocese of Down and Connor, which now lies before me, through the courtesy of Dr. Knox, the Lord Bishop of these dioceses, the name of the parish is spelt Anaghilt, the derivation being from Eanach ailte, the Doe's marsh. The curious document referred to is marked "copia vera," and bears the signatures R. Chapell, Dept. Aud<sup>r</sup>., and Thomas Higginson, Pub. Not., and purports to be issued by the then Archbishop of the Province of Armagh. Adjoining the Church there was formerly an extensive bog, which in the beginning of the eighteenth century, abounded, as we are told by Harris, with grouse, green plover, ducks, snipes, curlews, godwits and hares, but the various descriptions of game, as well as the marsh to which they resorted, have long disappeared, before the advance of agriculture.

A number of ancient relics, including a pair of querns, or handmills for grinding corn, have been discovered in various places throughout the neighbourhood.

The Parish of Dromara contains the small town of Dromara, which was at one time called Annesboro, in compliment to a member of the Downshire family. This parish includes part of the lands which were granted by patent, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in 1585, to Ever Mac Rory Magennis. They were forfeited in 1641, and afterwards granted by Charles II., to Colonel Arthur Hill, who, in consequence of the death of his elder brother and nephew, succeeded to the family estates.

The population of the parish amounts to 4,659 individuals, including 205 residents in the town.

The remarkable Cairn on Slieve Croob Mountain, described in another part of the work, is in this parish.



In the townland of Finnis there is a curious cave, 94 feet long, by six feet wide, the height being five feet, and having the transept near the centre, about thirty feet long. The walls are widely arched near the top, and covered with slabs of granite.

In 1832, the Rev. Elgee Boyd, the rector of the parish at the time, caused this cave to be cleaned out, and an iron door put up to protect it from injury.

The small town of Dromara, on the banks of the Lagan, is situated about three miles from the base of Slieve Croob.

The public buildings are an Episcopal, Presbyterian, and Methodist church, a dispensary, a petty sessions court, and a market-house, built by the third Marquis of Downshire.

The original church was called Templemoyle, and its ruins within the old churchyard, in the townland of Dunmore, still remain.

The ancient church, lying in ruins since 1641, had been recently repaired, at the time Harris wrote, and it is now in good order. It is a neat little structure, adjacent to the town.

Dromara, with a part of the rectory of Garvaghy, (now disannexed) was, in 1609, constituted a union and head of a prebend, "prebenda Drumarach," the only one in the diocese of Dromore. The glebe-house was erected in 1821. The former glebe consisted of one moiety of the townland of Dromara, given in pure alms by James I., but the present glebe is a leasehold of twenty acres of land, granted by the Marquis of Downshire.

The ancient church of Drumberra now corresponds to the parish of Dromara, of which Gilbert McYneryny was perpetual vicar in 1427.

The principal houses in the parish are Woodvale, Winter Hill, Moydalgan House, and the Rectory.

The parish of Garvaghy contains 3,134 persons. It anciently constituted, in part, the corps of the Prebend of Dromara. The principal houses are Carnew, and Waringsford, and Ballooly House.

At Ballineybeg and Knockgorman there are some remains of ancient Cromlechs.



The principal mansions are Carnew, Waringsford, Ballooly House, the residence of the late Mr. Magennis, the last direct representative of the Magennisses of Iveagh.

The church, a small edifice in the Grecian style, was built in 1699, and thoroughly repaired in 1780, and the glebe-house is a handsome residence. The patronage was formerly in the bishop.

Garvaghy, in Irish Garbh Achadh, signifies rough land. It was sometimes written Garwagh, and more anciently Garwaghadh, the lands of which, about 1428, were let by the primate to the family of M'Kewyn.\* Part of the income of the Bishop of Dromore accrued from the chief rents of nine denominations in this parish, called in the King's Books the mensal tithes of Knockaquerin.

The church of "Drummore," now the parish of Dromore, contains a population of 12,344 persons, including 104 residents in the village of Ashfield, and 2,408 in the township of Dromore.

The chief mansions are the Bishop's Palace and the Castle at Gillhall. The former was built in the episcopate of Dr. Bernard, but subsequently the grounds were laid out, and the demesne planted with great taste, on the model of the Leasowes, as it is alleged, by the celebrated Bishop Percy.

After the abolition of eleven of the Irish bishoprics, early in this century, the palace and grounds were leased to Mr. James Quin, who resides there, the mansion being now named Dromore House.

The other principal houses in the parish are Mount Ida, Clannurray, Larch Hill, Marybrook, Altafort, Lagan Lodge, Springfield, Glenlagan, Quilly House, and Tullycairn, nearly all of which have changed their occupants from time to time. Quilly House is now occupied by the rector, the Rev. Charles Beresford Knox, a relative of the Ranfurly family, and Islandderry has long been the patrimonial residence of the ancient family of Waddell.

Dr. Percy, who for many years filled the episcopal chair of Dromore, was a member of the great house of Northumberland. He

\* Reeves, p. 311.

was buried in the transept of the cathedral, and a handsome mural tablet commemorates his name. Dr. Percy is well known as the author of a *Key to the New Testament*, a translation of northern antiquities, and the pleasing poem of the *Hermit of Warkworth*. Mrs. Percy, the subject of the bishop's beautiful ballad, "O Nanny, wilt thou gang wi' me," is also buried at Dromore. Near the town, between the Dublin road and the Lagan, there is a handsome monument in memory of Bishop Percy, bearing the following inscription :—

P. M.

R. Rd. S. PERCY, D.D.

Episcopi Dromoriensis

Musarum amicus,

Virtutibus, ingenio, literis,

Cultus, atque præclarus.

ob. 1811.

The monument was erected, and the inscription written by Mr. Thomas Stott, a sincere and constant friend of the Bishop. Mr. Stott, born in Hillsborough, was an extensive and successful linen merchant, resident in Dromore, and long well known as a poetical contributor to the *Belfast News-Letter*, under the "nom de plume" of Hafiz, the Persian Poet ; and, notwithstanding the bitter satire of Byron, in his *English Bards and Scotch Reviewers*, many of the verses of Hafiz evinced both humour and genius.

The extensive properties of the Earl of Clanwilliam, in this parish, were originally granted to Mr. Hawkins, an alderman of the city of London, by Charles II., as a recompense for his great and charitable exertions on behalf of the distressed Protestants, during the civil war. Chiefly by his means, shelter and support were provided for 5,000 natives of Ireland, of the established Religion, who had been driven from their country, and forced to fly to England for refuge. In addition to this generous relief, £30,000, raised by his exertions, were sent over to Ireland, for the aid of those who could not escape.

With the assistance of four other gentlemen, an additional large sum of £45,000 was collected by him, and devoted to the same purpose. He afterwards resided in Ireland, and became the proprietor of Rathfriland and various properties adjoining it, which had been forfeited by the Magennises in 1641.

John Magill, supposed to have been a junior branch of the family of that name in Scotland (Earls of Oxford, and Lords Magill), obtained grants of land, chiefly in the modern parishes of Dromore, Magheralin, and Tullylish. The name is preserved in that of the family residence at Gill Hall, and the town of Gilford. The property was formed into the Manor of Gilford, and in its descent, the male line has, three times, become extinct in the families of Magill, Johnston, and Hawkins. When it descended to Mr. Johnston, he took the name and arms of Magill, under the title of Sir John Magill, Baronet, and Mr. Hawkins also assumed the name, when he came into possession, being known as Robert Hawkins-Magill.

At an early date, that part of the property, contiguous to the Bann and Lagan, was inhabited almost exclusively by Englishmen, and that adjoining the Kilwarlin Hills and town of Dromore, by a few straggling Scots.

The Earl of Clanwilliam is descended from Sir John Meade, of Ballymartle, in the County of Cork, grandson of Sir John Meade Knight, who was created a Baronet of Ireland in 1703, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Pierce, but he, dying unmarried, was followed by his brother, Sir Richard, who died in 1774, and was succeeded by his son, Sir John, who married Theodosia, only daughter and heir of Robert Hawkins-Magill, of Gillhall, and was succeeded by their eldest son, Richard.

Sir John Meade was elevated to the Baronetcy of Gilford, in the County of Down, and Viscounty of Clanwilliam, in Tipperary, in 1766, and created Earl of Clanwilliam, in 1776. He died in 1800, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Richard, the second Earl, who died in 1805, and was followed in the succession by his son, Richard Charles Francis Meade, the present Earl, whose son,

Lord Gilford, a distinguished officer in the Royal Navy, is now one of the Lords of the Admiralty.

Lord Clanwilliam not only acquired the property of Mr. Hawkins-Magill, but subsequently to the battle of the Boyne, a plantation in the vicinity of Dromore.

Of this property he offered leases, at a rent of 2s. 6d. per acre, renewable for ever, which was considered as full value at the time. The townland of Tullycairn was bequeathed by him to John Magill, in the possession of whose descendants it remained until recent years.

The Countess of Clanwilliam, who died in 1817, left for the benefit of the poor a sum of money, now producing about £10 per annum, as well as £3 7s., to go annually in aid of the funds of the dispensary, which had been established in the parish.

Near Gillhall there is a small fort obviously erected to defend the pass over the Lagan at that point, and near the same place, in 1817, a cavern was discovered, hewn out of the solid rock. It is of rectangular form, four and a half feet in height, twenty four feet long, and two and a half in width.

Several broken urns, of coarse brown clay, containing charcoal and calcined human bones, were found on the floor of the cavern.

In Hill's elaborate work "The Macdonnells of Antrim," there is a very interesting account of the expedition of the fiery and arrogant Shane O'Neill, against the "Skotts," who, as described in his letter to Lord Justice Arnold, were utterly defeated by him, after a bloody conflict either at "Gleantaise," or "Glennsheiog," at the base of Knocklayd mountain, in the vicinity of "Baile-cashlein" (Ballycastle). O'Neill had marched from Fedan (from Fiodha Woods) in "Easter wyek," passing through "Dromemoer," in his progress northwards, "in the Queen's service against the Scots, her Majesty's enemies, and the usurpers of her territories."

A deposit of rich iron ore has very recently been discovered, about six miles from Rathfriland and Dromore, near the mountain of Decomet, in Drumgooland where that parish joins the parish of Dromara.

Some idea may be formed of the richness of the deposit from the fact, that though more than twelve feet are undergoing excavation, at least an equal thickness underneath remains untouched.

Considerable quantities are conveyed to the port of Dundrum, by means of traction engines.

It is worthy of remark, that in sinking one of the present shafts, tools, timber, and other indications of previous excavations were discovered.\*

There is a large cairn on the summit of the mountain, on exploring which, some curious antique vessels and ancient coins were discovered ; and it is reported, that a somewhat similar vein of iron has been recently discovered near Bryansford.

Arthur Magennis, a distinguished Ecclesiastic, was advanced to the See of Dromore by Papal provision, which was confirmed by Edward VI., and Hugh M. Caghwell, a learned Franciscan there, was the author of various theological treatises.

The town of Dromore is a place of great antiquity, consisting of a square and five principal streets. Its origin is traceable to Saint Colman, who founded there an Abbey of Canons Regular. It derives its name from its situation, which is partly on a ridge, "Druimmor," implying the great back of a hill.

The public buildings, in addition to the Cathedral, are Presbyterian Meetinghouses, and places of worship for the Methodists, Covenanters, and Unitarians, respectively. A new and handsome Roman Catholic Chapel, in the Gothic style, with a lofty spire, has very recently been erected, and dedicated to St. Colman, the first bishop of the diocese and Abbot of Dundrum, who was a pupil of St. Cayan, the first bishop of Down.

The market-house, a plain old building, stands in the centre of the square.

The family of Fanshaw took the title of Viscount from Dromore, but it is long extinct.

Closely adjacent to the town, are the remains of an ancient

\* Correspondent of the *Ulster Observer*, 1874.



castle, built by William Worsley, for the protection of Bishop Tod, his father-in-law. The circumstances connected with this erection led to the passing of a law, restraining Bishops from giving leases of the See lands, for more than 21 years, a statute which was acted on, up to the period of the disendowment of the Irish Church.

At the north-east of the town, on the banks of the Lagan, is situated one of the principal forts or duns in the County, termed the great fort, and something analagous to the "Folkemot" of Spencer. Its dimensions are nearly 200 yards in circumference, and nearly 60 feet in perpendicular height, the diameter at the summit being 55 feet. The whole is surrounded by a rampart and battlement. The trench, which terminates on a precipice, has two branches, embracing a square fort of 100 feet in diameter, and there is a covered way on the slope from the mount to the river. The following not very flattering description of the town, as it existed in the sixteenth century, is given by an early writer:—"Drommore" belongs to my Lord Conway, who hath a good handsome house, with garden and orchard, on the pleasant river Lagan, which abounds with salmon,—the land about the poorest and barrenest, but may be made good with labour and chardge. We lodged in Mr. Haven's house, opposite to the Bishop's, a little timber house of no great state or receipt. It is a very dear house, 8d. ordinary, for ourselves; 6d. for our servants; and we were overcharged in beere. This diocese is the worst part of the kingdom, and the poorest land and ground, yet the best church livings bee." Another ancient description is even less favourable: "Noe buildings in this parish, only Dromore, it being a market town, hath some old thatched houses, and a ruined church standing in it, what other buildings there are in this parish are nothing but removable creaghts."

But the reverse of all this is now observable. The unfavourable description of the houses will not, however, appear so remarkable, when we remember that down even to the time of Henry VIII., the houses in England were erected without chimneys, and often of wood or clay, the latter being termed cob-



houses, some of them standing to the present day. Even in the time of Elizabeth, there were few houses of stone, with the exception of those of persons of the highest rank.\* Creaghts, it may be stated, were houses, or rather wigwams, formed of strong wattles set up, and covered with mud, straw, or rushes, not unlike the huts of the Tatar tribes, as described in Huc's Travels.

There are two bridges over the Lagan, within the precincts of the town, the one long built, and the other, on the mail coach road to Dublin, of more handsome and modern structure.

The Church of Dromore, now the Parish of Dromore, was anciently styled *Ecclesia Sancti Colmani* or *Colmoci*, but in the charter of James I., in 1609, it is termed *Ecclesia Christi Redemptoris de Drumore*. Originally it was attached to a Monastic Institution, of canons regular, by St. Colman or Colmoc, its first bishop or abbot. The foundation of the Church on the river Locha, now the Lagan, dates about the year 500.

In the tenth century, the see had acquired considerable possessions, but it was frequently plundered by the Danes, and suffered also in the numerous feuds of the O'Neils, Magennises, and Macartanes.

In 1641, when the rebellion broke out, the Episcopal House, then in course of erection by Bishop Buckworth, was destroyed together with the town, by the Parliamentary forces, and the Bishop was obliged to fly to England, where he died in 1652, and the building remained in ruins until the Reformation.

James I., in 1610, refounded the see, by letters patent, rebuilt the Cathedral, and conferred on the Bishop extensive possessions, which he erected into a manor, including the lands of "Drumore, alias Ballyney, and Ballynaries," and many other denominations of lands specified in the patent. He also created a court-leet, and court-baron, the first to be held twice in the year, at Dromore, and the latter every week, and conferred authority for having a free market on each Saturday, and a fair yearly, near the Church. The

\* Barnes' History of Lancashire, p. 192.

Bishop, who was Lord of the manor, was invested with the power of appointing a coroner, escheator, clerk, and bailiff, and he might require the King's writs to be executed by the first-named official.

The original title of the manor was Bailanogalga corrupted into Ballymaganley, a denomination or townland, on which the town of Dromore stood.

Charles II. conferred the see of Dromore, in commendam, on Bishop Jeremy Taylor, by whom the present Cathedral, also parochial, was built on the ruins of the preceding one.

The Cathedral was thoroughly repaired and modernized, in 1808, when the tower was taken down, and the original oaken roof replaced with one of slate, by Bishop Percy, chiefly at his own expense. It was again enlarged, repaired, and beautified, in 1868, chiefly through the exertions of the Rev. Charles B. Knox, the present Incumbent. Beneath the Communion Table there is a vault in which Bishop Taylor, and two of his successors in the episcopate, Bishops Rust and Wiseman, are buried.

The patronage of the Rectory was formerly in the Bishop, but there is neither glebe nor parochial residence. It forms the corps of the Treasurership, in the diocese of Dromore, the parish Church having been confirmed the Cathedral of Christ the Redeemer, by the 21st of George II.

The parish of Magherally, Machaire abhla, field of the apple trees, contains a population of 2,037 persons. Its only public buildings are the Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, and Episcopal Churches.

An old writer says, "In Magherally there are no observable houses;" but this was in the sixteenth century, and a great change has since occurred, as there is now a thriving population.

There are numerous forts scattered over this, as most other districts in the county, but they are rapidly disappearing before the spirit of agricultural improvement.

The Church of Anale was probably Magherally. In the King's books it is called Magherauley, and is variously written (without the prefix of Machaire), Anyll, Anvall, and Awall.

The church is a small but handsome edifice, with a new tower and spire recently erected, and the patronage was successively vested for one turn, in the Bishop, and for two, in the Crown. It formed part of the Union of Aghaderg, and of the corps of the Deanery of Dromore, to which a sum of £60 10s. was allotted from the tithes. The glebe house was built in 1780, and there is a glebe of twenty acres. The church and church-yard are in the townland of Magherally.

The church of Lan, now the parish of Magheralin, was founded by St. Colman or Mochalmse, who died in the year 700. There was a monastery here at a very early date. In 1609 the church of Lan was annexed to the precentorship of Dromore, and Magheralin now constitutes the corps of that dignity. A new church was built in Magheralin not many years ago, and the old structure, the ruins of which still stand in the churchyard, was long used as the Cathedral of Dromore, and the bishop's throne still remains.

There is a good glebe-house and a glebe, containing sixty acres of excellent land. The population, including 383 residents in Dollingstown, and 462 in the village of Magheralin, amounts to 4,680 persons.

Magheralin was long the headquarters of a party of Danes, and it derives its name, according to Donovan, from Machaire linne, the plain of the pools. It now differs much from the description of an old writer in the fifteenth century, who tells us, that there were "noe buildings therein, the places of abode being only moveable creights."

The principal houses are Grace Hall, New Forge, Drumna-breeze, Kircassock, and the property of Mr. Richardson.

The Wilderness is occupied by Mr. William Greer, and Grace Hall is the residence of Mr. Charles Matthew Douglas.

Dollingstown is situated on the direct road from Lisburn to Lurgan, and was built by Mr. Robert Holbeach Dolling, of Kilrea Manor, in the County of Londonderry, a son of the Rev. Robert Boughey Dolling, formerly rector of Magheralin. He is the pre-

sent representative of the family, which is of French extraction, settled in the island of Purbeck. The family of Douglas is of Scotch lineage, their founder in this country, Robert Douglas, born in 1665, having accompanied King William III. to Ireland, and served as a lieutenant at the battle of the Boyne.

Robert was the father of Charles, and grandfather of Thomas Douglas, whose son, Charles Matthew Douglas, is the present representative of the family.

In the vicinity of Magheralin stood the monastery of Linn Huachuille, a designation still retained by one of the townlands in the parish. The village is thus referred to by Harris:—"Magheralin, where the Bishop of Dromore has a demesne and a good see-house, built by Bishop Pullein. There is an incumbent, who is chanter, a glebe-house and parsonage-house, with a handsome church and steeple." The ancient see-house was last occupied by Bishop Jeremy Taylor, before his translation to Dromore.

The parish of Moira, anciently Magh Rath, the hill of forts, contains a population of 2404 persons, besides 640 residing in the town.

The chief mansions are Waringfield, Woodfort House, Legmore, and Drumbane Houses, and the Rectory.

The mansion of the Earl of Moira, which formerly stood in the demesne, adjoining the town, was taken down after the sale of the property to the late Sir Robert Bateson. It was for a long period the residence of the Moira family, and the first Marquis of Hastings was born there. He was also buried at Moira, and had the largest funeral ever seen in Ireland, more than eight hundred carriages having entered into the procession.

The original building was erected by Sir John Rawdon, and covered with shingles, or, as they were locally termed, wooden slates, a mode of roofing then common in that part of the county.

The demesne is tolerably extensive and well wooded, having many shrubs and trees of large growth, and some of them of ornamental kinds not common in Ireland, Sir Arthur Rawdon

having sent his gardener to Jamaica, for the express purpose of procuring them. At the time Dubourdieu wrote his work, many were considered deserving of description, and included "the locust tree of Virginia, thirty feet high and one and-a-half feet in diameter, bearing a pod larger than a pea, and full of honey, and supposed to have been the food of John the Baptist in the wilderness, the Ucca, or Adam's needle, which has a leaf like a flag, and a point as sharp as a needle, and the Indian honeysuckle, bearing a crimson flower, which blows only once in three or four years. There was also the parsley-leaved elder, a variety, with a leaf like that of parsley, and a pine or pineaster, twenty-six feet high."

In this vicinity is Lough Neagh, the greatest of the Irish lakes. It is forty-eight feet above the level of the sea, and therefore the practicability of draining it, if desirable, is apparent.

The petrifying properties attributed to the waters do not appear to have foundation in fact.

The most abundant fish in this lake are pollan, and salmon-trout. The royalties and fishery of Lough Neagh were granted to the Earl of Donegal, under the name of Lough Sidney or Lough Chichester, and they were held on lease by Lord Viscount Massereene under the Donegal family, but they are now in the sole possession of Mr. Crommelin, of Carrowdore Castle.

The family of Rawdon deduces its pedigree from Paulinus de Rawdon, of Rawdon, near Leeds, which formed a part of the grant conferred on Paulinus, by William the Conqueror, whom he accompanied to England.

The family of Hastings were descended from Sir George, the nineteenth in descent from Paulinus Rawdon, secretary to the first Lord Conway, who had, in 1666, grants of land in Down assigned him from time to time, and he also purchased, for a small sum, a district consisting of fourteen and a-half "towns, in the territory of Moyra and County of Iveah," which had been granted in the earlier years of the plantation, to Murtagh



Mac Terlagh O'Lavery, and the portion of which, not previously alienated, was forfeited in 1641.

Sir George introduced on his property, conformable "Protestants, *i. e.* English soldiers," and he was active as a military commander in 1641, and created a baronet in 1665. Sir John, the fourth baronet, was elevated to the peerage as Baron Rawdon, and in 1761, he was advanced to the earldom of Moira. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Francis, a distinguished soldier and statesman, who was made a peer of the United Kingdom, under the title of Viscount Loudoun, Earl of Rawdon, and Marquis of Hastings, and at one time filled the office of Governor-General of India. The family seats were at Ballinahinch and Moira, but with the noble estates attached to them, they have long passed into other hands.

The interest of £200 left by the late Messrs. Samuel and Jasper Waring, and the interest of £400 bequeathed by the first Earl of Moira, with some other smaller moneys, are annually distributed by the churchwardens to the poor householders of the parish.

A sanguinary battle was fought near Moira, in 637, between the exiled Congal Eloain and Donald King of Ireland, which terminated in the utter defeat of the former; but according to the opinion of Mr. J. W. Hanna, the great battle of Maghrath was not fought here, but in the vicinity of the Crown Rath, near Newry.

The clean and neat little town of Moira contains a handsome court-house, erected at the joint expense of Sir John Rawdon and the Earl of Hillsborough, the owners of the contiguous properties.

A manor court was formerly held here every third week.

Moira, Moyragh, or St. Innis of Moire, was anciently called Moirath. The rectory was built in 1799, at a cost of £710. Moira was formerly a part of Magheralin, but it was formed into a distinct parish about the year 1725, soon after which the church was erected, at the joint expense of Sir John Rawdon and the then Earl of Hillsborough. It is a large and handsome Gothic



edifice, with a square tower and lofty spire. The patronage was vested in the bishop.

Soldierstown church is also in the parish of Moira.

This vicarage formed a part of the Union of Magheramesk.

The church is a small plain edifice, built in 1826, and the glebe contains about thirteen acres, and the patronage was impropriate in Lord Hertford.

Donacloney, in Irish Domhnach chluaine, signifies the Church of the Meadow. The population of the parish, including the town of Donacloney and Waringstown, having respectively 148 and 784 inhabitants, amounts to 4226 persons.

It was formerly united, by a charter of James I. to the rectories of Seagoe and Moyntagh, and to part of Magherally, and Tullylish, constituting the Union of Donacloney, and corps of the Archdeaconry of the diocese of Dromore, which, in the King's Book, was valued at three marks, but the union was dissolved in 1832, and Seagoe alone became the corps of the Archdeaconry.

The church has a curious oaken roof, remarkable for its workmanship. The patronage was in the bishop.

William Waring, who first settled here, obtained an act for changing the site of the church from Donacloney bridge, to the present situation at Waringstown, where he gave a grant of the ground, and erected a new structure in 1681. At the time Harris wrote there were not more than about twenty Roman Catholic families in the parish, whilst the Protestants of all denominations numbered nearly 1800 souls.

The principal mansions are Waringstown House, Lake View, Cambray House, Donacloney House, and various others occupied by the mercantile class, the manufacture of linen and cambric being carried on to a great extent in the parish after their introduction by Mr. Waring.

Waringstown House, the residence of Major Waring, was erected in 1667, by Mr. William Waring. It is a handsome and commodious mansion, situated in tastefully laid out grounds, closely adjacent to the town.

In 1688, the adherents of James II. took possession of the house, and retained it until driven out by Schomberg, when on his way towards the south. The family is of English lineage. John, a member of the ancient house of that name in Lancashire came to Ireland, in the time of James I., and Wm. Waring, before mentioned, subsequently became possessed of the district of Clanconnel, of which the Waringstown estate forms a part. His son, Samuel, who succeeded him, was a member of Parliament for Hillsborough from 1703 to 1715. He was succeeded by his son, Samuel, who was followed in succession by the Very Reverend Holt Waring, Dean of Dromore. Major Henry Waring, of Waringstown, married Frances Grace, a daughter of Dean Waring, whom he succeeded, and left a son, the present Major Waring, who is now the representative of the family.

The parish of Shankill is only, in part, contained in the barony of Lower Iveagh, the greater portion of it, including the town of Lurgan, being situated in the barony of O'Neilland East, in the County of Armagh. The County Down part amounts to 1652 acres.

The name is derived from the Irish Semchill, *i. e.* the "old church."

The mansion of Brownlow House, the residence of Lord Lurgan, is a very handsome modern structure, built in the Elizabethan style.

The demesne is well wooded and picturesque, containing an extensive lake, abundantly stocked with wild fowl, and the entrance is by a handsome gateway, constructed of sandstone imported from Scotland.

The Right Hon. William Brownlow was for more than thirty years a distinguished member of the House of Commons, before his elevation to the Peerage, as Baron Lurgan, in 1839.

He was succeeded by his son, Charles Brownlow, the present peer, who married the Hon. Emily Anne Browne, a daughter of Baron Kilmaine.

The family came originally from Derbyshire, and the lands in

the County of Armagh, which were granted by patent, to Sir William Brownlow were left to Arthur Chamberlain, maternal grandson of the grantee, and he subsequently assumed the name of Brownlow.

The church, situated in the town of Lurgan, a Grecian edifice, with a lofty tower and octagonal spire, was built in 1712. It was repaired and enlarged in 1828, and again within a few years a large addition has been made to it. It is now a very handsome structure, the interior being ornamented with a fine organ, and stained glass windows.

The glebe-house is a commodious edifice, built in 1821, at a cost of more than £1300, and having attached an extensive glebe of 170 statute acres.

The word Lurgan in Irish signifies a long hill. This large, populous, and improving town, from its adjacency and great intercourse with the County of Down, deserves a passing notice. It is on the line of the Ulster Railway, the station of which adjoins the town. The Presbyterians, Society of Friends, Wesleyan and Primitive Methodists, and Roman Catholics have all their respective places of worship. There are also a handsome and extensive model school, a school on Erasmus Smith's foundation, a mechanic's institute, with a good library, a town hall, town commissioners' office, a brown-linen hall, a Masonic lodge, a dispensary, a good hotel, and two breweries.

The Union Workhouse stands at a short distance from the town.

The principal houses in the parish of Lurgan, besides Brownlow House, are Kilmore House, Woodville, and Silverwood House. Woodville is situated in the County Armagh, but much of the property of Mr. John Greer is in the County of Down.

The family of Greer, of Lag, in Dumfriesshire, was descended from the Grierson branch of the clan MacGregor. Mr. Greer, of the Wilderness, is a younger brother of Mr. John Greer, of Woodville, in the County of Armagh. Their father, Mr. George Greer, was a son of John Greer, of the Grange, and Catherine, daughter of John Cuppage, of Gardenhill, in the County of Antrim. Henry

Greer, the ancestor of this branch of the family came to Ireland, in 1653, and settled in Lurgan.

The present representative of Mr. John Greer, who was an elder brother of George Greer, is Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Harpur Greer, son of Major Joseph of the Grange, County Tyrone, an officer of high standing in the army, at present commanding the 63rd Brigade Depot to be stationed at Downpatrick.

The parish of Tullylish, Tulaigh lis, the Hill of the Fort, contains a population of 11,693 persons, comprising 227 residents in Banville-row, 140 in Civiltown, 2,892 in Gilford, 126 in Laurence-town, and 119 in Miltown.

The district of Moyallen is one of the richest in the county, being ornamented with well-grown timber, and studded with the numerous bleach-greens, which lie along the course of the river Bann.

There are various good quarries of building-stone, and iron-stone occurs abundantly near Gilford. The linen trade, which has flourished to an extraordinary degree, was introduced here, about 1725. There are extensive mills for grain at Coose, and Gilford, and very large flour mills at Banford.

Tullylish, with the exception of two townlands, was in the manor of Gilford, which formed part of the manor of Bailanogalga, belonging to the Bishop of Dromore, but it was ultimately annexed to that of Rathfryland.

The townland of Moyallen was granted to the Society of Friends in 1685, and it still remains in the possession of members of that body, a circumstance accounting, in a great degree, for its highly cultivated condition.

Lough Ternan is unhappily memorable for the miserable deaths of a body of Protestant women, who were on the way from the County Armagh to Clandeboye, whither they were compelled to transport themselves by Sir Phelim O'Neill. The weather was most rigorous, and, having to cross the lake on the ice, it sank beneath them, and all miserably perished.

Tullylish Church is a spacious and handsome structure, situated at Barford, on the southern bank of the river Bann. It was built

in 1698, on the site of a preceding edifice, which was destroyed in 1641. A large circular aisle was added in 1827, and at the same time a square pinnacled tower. The glebe-house was erected in 1789, but it has been improved since.

There are two other churches in this parish—Knocknamuckley, the patronage of which was formerly in the Crown, and in the incumbents of Tullylish and Seagoe alternately; and Gilford, the patronage of which is vested in Mr. M'Master.

Gilford, which takes its name from the Clanwilliam family, is thus alluded to by Harris:—"Gilford village belongs to Richard Johnson, Esq., who has here a house and gardens, the bottoms variegated with bleach-greens. The parish church of Tullylish is half-a-mile S. East of Gilford, and near it is Hall's mill, where Mr. John Nicholson has a bleach-yard, and a village is beginning to make its appearance already. It is an open, hilly country, full of corn."

Gilford, now a considerable town, is partly situated on both sides of the river Bann, which is crossed by a stone bridge, and the spinning of flax and manufacture of thread are extensively carried on by Messrs. Dunbar, M'Master and Co., who employ about 2,000 people.

Some extensive ruins, supposed to have been an abbey, still exist at Tullyhoa, and a number of forts, of which, that situated at Banford, in the townland in which the parish church is placed, is the largest. The Newry Canal passes within a mile of the town of Gilford, and a large wharf and warehouse have been constructed at Madden Bridge, where there is a station of the Belfast Junction Railway. The seats in this parish are numerous, including Tullylish House, Milltown House, Banville, Hazelbank, Springvale, Banford, Mountpleasant, Fannymount, Stramore House, Moyallen, Gilford Villa, Banvale, Millpark, and Lenaderg.

Gilford Castle, formerly belonging to Sir William Johnson, Baronet, became the property of Mr. Benjamin Dickson, by whom it was rebuilt.

Laurencetown House, is the property of Mr. Alexander Stewart,

whose principal residence is at Ards House, in the County of Donegal.

The family of Stewart of Ards is of Scotch lineage. John Stewart, of Ballylawn Castle, who first settled in Ireland, was descended from the Earls of Galloway. He received a grant of land from James I., on which he erected the manor of Ballylawn, and the third in descent from this gentleman had, with other issue, Alexander Stewart, of Mountstewart, one of whose sons was Robert, the first Marquis of Londonderry, and another, Alexander, who purchased the Ards Estate, from the Wray family, and went to reside there. By his wife, Lady Mary Moore, a daughter of the first Marquis of Drogheda, he had a son, Alexander Robert, who died in 1831, and was succeeded by his son, of the same name, who is married to Lady Isabella, a sister of the Earl Norbury, and is the present representative of this branch of the family.

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## CHAPTER XXIII.

### Topography of the Barony of Upper Lecale.

The population of the Barony of Upper Lecale, in 1871, amounted to 13,255, and the parish of Downpatrick to 6,743 inhabitants, of whom 3,621 are resident in the town. The principal mansions are—Ballydugan House, Hollymount, and Vianstown House, the mansion of Mr. John Cleland, a gentleman of Scotch descent.

Ballydugan House is now the residence of Mr. William Keown-Boyd, formerly member for the borough of Downpatrick, which is partly owned by him. The property of Ballydugan came by purchase from the Auchinlecks, a family of Scotch extraction of old standing in the county, but of whom no representatives now remain. Their burying-place is in the little graveyard at the chapel of Strangford. There was formerly a strong house, with a drawbridge and turrets for defence, at Ballydugan, which was burnt down through the treachery of the servants in 1641.

Mr. Henry West, who was the proprietor of Ballydugan at the time, built a residence, which was subsequently disposed of by his successor. At that period an island, which was denominated Swan Island, from the number of swans that built in it, was situated near the mansion, the waters of the Quoile extending much further inland than at present. It was here that Colonel White was murdered in 1641, and in 1642 a small garrison of Protestants, who lay in huts around the ruined walls, were surprised by the Irish, who took possession of the place, with all the stores and provisions ;

but they were soon after obliged to surrender at discretion, to Sir James Montgomery, as he was preparing to storm the defences, with the aid of boats collected from Killyleagh, Portaferry, and Strangford. The extensive flour mills of Ballydugan, built by the Messrs. Auchinleck in 1792, have long passed into other hands.

Mr. William Keown married a sister of Dr. Alexander, Bishop of Derry ; and recently, on the death of his mother, of the family of the Boyds of Glastry, who claimed descent from the Lords of Kilmarnock, he assumed the name of Boyd.

In this parish was the chapel of Strohalla (from Struher, a stream), now termed Struell, a townland in which are situated the celebrated wells of St. Patrick, called Struell Wells. Hither until recently, vast numbers of people resorted at midsummer evenings, and on the Friday before Lammas, some for the recovery of health, and some to do penance for their sins.

Harris describes these wells as having been four in number, each covered with a stone vault, and having the water conveyed from one to the other by subterranean aqueducts. The largest and most celebrated of them is alleged to have received the benediction of St. Patrick. In this the patients bathed the whole body ; and adjoining was a commodious dressing-chamber, built by Lady Cromwell, and constructed for the use of males and females separately,\* no suitable accommodation having existed before her time.

The waters of the other wells were applied to particular parts, as the eyes, head, or limbs.

Near the wells are the ruins of a small chapel, never completed, dedicated to St. Patrick, and closely adjoining is a hill called Struell Mountain, on the face of which is placed what is termed St. Patrick's chair, formed by the erection of large stones.

The water is limpid, and agreeable to the taste, but does not appear to be possessed of any peculiar qualities.

There are now only two wells and the bath-room remaining.

\* Montgomery MSS.

In 1825, an elk's head, measuring five feet eleven inches between the extreme points of the horns, was found in a marl-pit near the town of Downpatrick.

There are several forts and raths in the parish, the principal one being that near the cathedral.

An ancient ferry, termed Portillagh, crossing the western arm of Strangford Lough, about a mile from Downpatrick, formerly kept up the communication between that town and the county beyond. A bridge was subsequently erected, with a tower and gates, but it was removed in 1841.

In 1633, John Echlin, of Ardquin, a son of Bishop Echlin, obtained from Lord Cromwell a devise for sixty-one years, at £110 per annum, of the lands of Inch, and other property, including the ferry-boats and ferry of Portillagh, with the right of fishing on Lough Coan, in consideration of a loan of £1,000. At this time Mr. Echlin also possessed Finnebrogue, but he subsequently assigned his interest in that property to his brother-in-law, Mr. Maxwell, in whose family it still remains.

The racecourse of Downpatrick, once celebrated, although now disused, was in this parish, in the vicinity of the town.

Castle Screen, which was erected within a rath, still exhibits some traces of its ruins. It is situated about a mile-and-a-half from Downpatrick, and at a short distance may be seen the remains of the Benedictine Abbey of Erynagh, which was founded by Magnell Makenlefe, King of Ulster, in 1126. This abbey, having been garrisoned against De Courcy in 1177, he levelled it to the ground, and, in expiation of this sacrilege, he founded the Abbey of Inch. Near the abbey there is a celebrated well, dedicated to St. Finian.

About a mile from Downpatrick, on the Quoile river, there is a commodious quay, which may properly be called the Port of Downpatrick. A mansion house here was at one time called King's Weston, after the name of an ancient English residence of Mr. Southwell, a former lord of the soil. Vessels of one hundred tons burthen can lie at the quay, but the trade, is not now

extensive, the principal imports being coals, timber, and iron, with various articles of domestic use ; and the exports, except occasionally some grain, are very trifling. At an early period, however, the excise and customs of the port amounted to about £8,000, the imports being chiefly wine, spirits, timber, deals, iron, groceries, and general merchandise ; whilst the exports were, corn, linen, yarn, raw hides, tallow, cattle, pigs, potatoes, and kelp.

Formerly the tide flowed quite close up to the town, but in 1745, an embankment was made across the Quoile, which reclaimed about five hundred acres of land. This embankment having been swept away by a storm, a second, with flood-gates, was raised by Lord de Clifford, but after heavy rains a considerable portion of the enclosed soil is still inundated, leaving it in the condition of a permanent marsh, which might, with great benefit, be entirely drained.

The following chapelries formerly existed in the parish of Down, in addition to that of Strohull, before referred to:—The chapel of Rilitown, now represented by the townland of Ballyrolly, containing an old graveyard and some remains of a church, situated to the left of the road leading from Downpatrick to Clough ; the chapel of Wytikelona, now Ballykilbeg townland, which was variously called Ballenagalbee, and Prebenda de Whytynton, but no ruins of it now remain. The site of the chapel of “ Balidugan ” forms a part of the present garden of Ballydugan House, and the priory of Canons-regular in Down were possessed of a carucate of ground in the townland of “ Ballydogan.” In 1333, certain lands, with a mill, were held here by William de Burgo.

The chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, now Ringreagh, (*i. e.*, Grey-point), although in the heart of Down, was a detached townland of the parish of Kilclief.

The chapel of St. Malachi was possibly on the site where the present parish church of Down now stands. Its position is thus given in the Terrier, “ Monasterium Hibernorum, hard by the cathedral, is the church of Channons.”

The incumbency of Hollymount was formerly a perpetual

curacy. The church is a small but neat building. The mansion of Hollymount, once a residence of the Forde family, is described by Harris as "a small house of Cromwell Price, Esq.;" but the present mansion is large and commodious. It was recently occupied by Lady Harriet Forde, and it is now the residence of the Rev. Mr. Hall, incumbent of Hollymount, and the owner of considerable landed property in the vicinity.

Downpatrick is unquestionably one of the most ancient towns in the kingdom, being noted in history before the arrival of St. Patrick in 452, and having been called at various times Rath Keltair mich duach, Dunkeltar, Aras Celthair, Dundaethglas, Dunlethglas, Down, and Downpatrick, the name by which it is now universally known.

The earlier appellations of this ancient town are deduced from a warrior of the Redbranch Knights, called Celtchair, or Keltar of the Battles, with the prefix of Rath Dun or Aras, the last signifying a habitation, the entrenched dun near the town having been the residence of that great chieftain. The other ancient name Dundaethglas, usually employed by ecclesiastical writers, implies the dun of the broken locks or fetters, and is founded on an old legend, the purport of which is, that the two sons of Dichu, having been confined as hostages by King Laeghane, were removed from the place of their confinement, and their fetters broken by supernatural agency. Finally, for the sake of brevity, the appellation of Dun alone was retained which passed into the Latin Dunum, and ultimately into the English Down, Patrick being subsequently added from the connection of the great saint with the town and vicinity. Although much doubt, not cleared away by his "Confession," has existed regarding the real birth-place of St. Patrick, claimed alike by France, England, and Scotland, it is generally agreed, that he first landed on the shores of the County of Down, in the year 432, and sojourned about Saul, commencing his labours by founding the Cathedral of Down, which, according to common belief, became his final resting place. His parentage is thus described



in his own words :—" I had for my father Calpurnius the deacon, [or decurion, perhaps both] the son of the late priest Potitus, who was of the town of Bonaven a small place in Tabernia ; near it was Enon, where I fell into captivity, when about sixteen years old, and was brought to Ireland," but unfortunately the situation of the places mentioned is altogether unknown.

Downpatrick was early subjected to great vicissitudes, having been six or seven times plundered by the Danes, between the ninth and thirteenth centuries, on which occasions the sacred character of the cathedral did not save it from the general pillage. The town, when St. Patrick made it the seat of the bishop, was divided into the English, Scotch, and Irish quarters, the localities of which are still indicated by streets bearing the same names, and as early as 837, one of the four principal schools in Ireland was established here.

In 1006 Madrigan Macdonnell, who was King of Ulster, was killed in the Church of St. Brigid ; and in 1177, the Irish, under the command of Roderick Macdunlevey, were defeated by De Courcy, who had previously taken possession of the town, and placed in it a strong garrison.

At this period about one-half of the inhabitants of Lecale were made up of English settlers.

In 1148 Malachi Morgair, who, eleven years previously had repaired the church, died here, and in 1183, the cathedral was rebuilt. Three years later a Bull was received from the Pope, in virtue of which the relics of the three saints, Patrick, Brigid, and Columba were, as it is alleged, transferred to the cathedral ; some authorities asserting that they were buried within the walls of the building, and others that they were interred in the adjoining burial ground, with the following jingling epitaph :—

Hi tres in Duno, tumulo tumulantur in uno,  
Brigida, Patricius atque Columba pius.

But it does not seem satisfactorily established where the interment really took place.



On the rebuilding of the cathedral in 1183, De Courcy altered the constitution of the church, which had been attached to a house of secular canons, under the invocation of the Holy Trinity, and changed its name to that of St. Patrick's Church, which it retained until 1609, when the original appellation was restored, in a charter of James I. It is, we may here observe, stated by the Four Masters, that a church built of stone existed in Down long prior to the time of Malachi O'Morgair.

In the year 1200, Roderic Macdunleave was treacherously killed by the servants of De Courcy, for which crime he sent them into banishment. Three years later De Courcy himself was seized whilst doing penance, unarmed, in the burying ground of the cathedral, by the orders of De Lacy, then governor of Ireland, and sent over as a prisoner to King John in England. In 1210, the death of De Courcy took place, and the town was subsequently visited by King John in person, who, according to tradition, encamped on the hill, in front of the place where Ballydugan House now stands.

In 1245 part of the abbey and cathedral walls were thrown down by an earthquake.

The year 1259 was signalised by a desperate battle, which took place in the streets of the town, between Stephen de Longspee and the chief of the O'Neils, in which the latter was worsted, and several hundred of his followers slain.

In 1315, Edward Bruce plundered and destroyed the abbey, and three years thereafter, he was proclaimed king of Ireland, at the cross near the cathedral.

In 1380, an arbitrary enactment was issued, prohibiting any mere Irishman from professing himself in the abbey of Downpatrick.

In the year 1526, the cathedral was much beautified by Bishop Tiberius, and two years later, the abbey church was burned by Lord de Grey, and lay in ruins until 1790, when it was restored by a grant from Government, aided by liberal subscriptions. In the same year a rent-charge of £300 (Irish) was imposed on the

tithes of the union, by Act of Parliament, for repairs, and the support of the organist, three vicars choral, and six choristers. The destruction of the abbey church, however, is attributed by Father Macan to the impiety of Cromwell, an Englishman, whom he terms "a son of earth, and a foul spot on the human race, whose name deserved to be mentioned with abhorrence and scorn." The Cromwell thus characterized was a descendant of Lord Cromwell, and commanded a troop of horse at Down.

In 1551, Con O'Neil, Earl of Tyrone, pillaged the town, and three years afterwards, his son, Shane O'Neil destroyed its gates and ramparts. On surrender of the abbey, in 1539, the possessions attached to it, and the other religious establishments in the town, were granted to Gerald, the eleventh Earl of Kildare; and in 1560 the first parish church, a building seventy-eight feet in length, and twenty-eight in breadth, enlarged by a transept, was erected.

The patent conveying the town of Downpatrick to Lord Cromwell was passed in 1617 by James I.

In 1641 the town was attacked by Colonel Bryan O'Neil, who burnt a magnificent castle that had been erected by Lord O'Keha, and committed great slaughter on the Protestants who had fled thither for refuge.\* A narrative of the massacre there, as well as of that at Killyleagh, where many had repaired for safety, and the sworn testimony by which it was supported, may be referred to in Sir John Temple's History of the Rebellion.

The public buildings in, or adjacent to Downpatrick, are the Cathedral, St. Margaret's or the Parish Church, the Roman Catholic Chapel, Presbyterian, and Methodist Churches, the County Infirmary, Barracks, Market-house, News-room, Union Workhouse, Fever Hospital, and Gaol. There are also branches of the Northern and Ulster Banking Companies, doing an extensive business in the town, and adjacent county. The Court-house is a neat and commodious structure, in which the assizes are held.

\* Ulst. Ir. Arch. Vol. ii. p. 52.

The town consists of four principal streets, with some smaller ones, and it has many well-built houses, now illuminated with gas, but it was first lighted with oil, in 1830.

The principal market is on Saturday, but another is held on Friday.

The Downpatrick property, including a part of the town passed from the Lord de Clifford, to Mr. Ker, and from him to Mr. John Mulholland, the present owner, by purchase.

There are various charitable institutions in the town, including a Mendicity and a Clothing Society, two Alms-houses, Houses for the Widows of Clergymen, (preferably those of the diocese of Down), which were founded in 1730, by the Revs. Dr. Matthews, Henry Leslie, and J. Hamilton, who endowed them with £40 a year from lands in Ballybranagh; and in 1750, Dr. Hamilton, who was precentor of the diocese, founded two more at his sole expense, and endowed them with £42 annually, from lands in Tubbermoney, Grangetown, and Ballywarren. These houses are situated in English-street, and the management is vested in the Dean and Chapter of the diocese.

In 1810, Mr. John Brett bequeathed three hundred pounds in trust, the interest of which is annually distributed amongst the poor of the town.

The Down Hunt assemble in a handsome building in English-street, called the County Rooms, which are also used for the purpose of holding public meetings. There are a news-room and public library in the town, and the *Downpatrick Recorder*, the property of Mr. Conway Pilson, is published on every Saturday, and has a large circulation in the town and surrounding county. It is a well edited paper, brought out in good style, and from time to time, it has been the medium of circulating much valuable antiquarian and historical information regarding the town and county.

As early as 1403, a corporation was recognised at Downpatrick, letters of protection having been granted by Henry IV. to the "mayor, bailiffs, and city of Down in Ulster," and in 1505, members were returned from this "city" to the Irish Parliament. Previous

to the passing of the Act, the 35th of George III., every person occupying a house, or any potwalloper, *i. e.*, any Protestant who boiled a pot in the town, and paid scot and lot, was allowed a vote, in the election of a member of Parliament. The Act referred to, however, restricted the franchise to persons occupying houses of the annual value of £5, the Seneschal nominated by the Lord of the Soil, being the returning officer, who presided in the Manor Court, but had not any magisterial powers in right of his office.

The demesne of Down is included in the borough, which has been represented, since the retirement of Mr. Keown-Boyd, by Mr. John Mulholland.

The number of voters in the borough in 1831 was 493, and 157 more were qualified, although not registered.

By the Commons Journals of the 5th of March, 1834, it appears that the Burgesses of Down were ordered to attend, to show by "what charter or prescription they come to this present Parliament," and on the 9th, all persons having evidence, writing or charters, were required to attend the Committee of Privileges.

In the report of the Boundary Commissioners, for the purpose of the Reform Act, it is stated, that it cannot be ascertained, that a charter was ever granted to this borough, which is consequently supposed to be a borough only by prescription.

The Parliamentary borough comprises 1,486 statute acres, and the number of houses had, since 1861, increased from 835 to 903 in 1871, of which 75 were uninhabited, the population having slightly decreased. The number of electors at that period was 263.

Here, as in most places throughout the country, the female is in excess of the male population, the former amounting to 1,976 and the latter to 1,645 persons.

At an early period the religious establishments in Down included the Cathedral, at that time the Benedictine Abbey of canons regular, founded by St. Patrick, the Abbot of which sat in Parliament as a Baron, the Priory of John the Baptist, sometimes called

the Priory of the English, and belonging to the order Cruciferi under the rule of St. Augustine; Monasterium Hibernicorum, a priory of regular canons, called also Monaster Grallagh, and situated, as it appears from the Terrier, hard by the Cathedral, possibly at the old gaol, which is now a barrack; the Priory of St. Thomas the Martyr, otherwise Toberglorie, founded by De Courcy, and standing, in all likelihood near the well so designated, a Franciscan Friary, the site of which was probably in the angle formed by Scotch and Irish-streets, founded either by Hugh de Lacy, or Afreca, the foundress of Gray Abbey, and a Nunnery of the Blessed Mary of the Cistercian order, the position of which is uncertain. In addition to these, there was a church dedicated to St. Brigid.

By an inquisition taken in 1615, it appears that the Bishop of Down was, at that time, abbot of St. Patrick's abbey and convent, that the church was cathedral, and that the Dean and the Monks of the abbey were canons cathedral. This abbey possessed the large number of forty-seven townlands, and with them seven churches or parishes, together with the ferries of Carlingford and the Bann, as well as of all other ferries obtained by the conquests of Sir John de Courcy, that, between Lecale and the Ards, alone excepted. Sir John de Courcy also granted to the abbey, every tenth cow, and every tenth animal on all his farms, excepting those in the Ards.

In a patent roll of Edward III., confirming all the great possessions of the see of Down, "*Milloc juxta Antrum*" is included. This church was in the "*cinament*" of Clondermod, and valued in the Taxation at 40s., and the tenths at 4s., but the name is obsolete.\*

The Prior of Down had very large powers under the charter given by John de Courcy, clothing him with full authority, to hear pleas, pass sentences, and dispense justice, regarding crimes of every description, including murders, rapine, fire-raising, bloodshed, rape, and every kind of violence and disorder.†

\* Reeves' Antiquities, p. 3.

† MS. of the late Dr. Drew.



The Cathedral is situated on a hill to the west of the town. It is a handsome building, supported externally by buttresses, and surmounted by lofty square towers at the west end, embattled and pinnacled with smaller square towers, at each corner of the east gable, in one of which there is a spiral stone staircase leading to the roof.

The aisles are separated from the nave by lofty and handsome arches, resting on massive piers, from the corbels of which spring ribs supporting the roof, which is richly groined and ornamented at the intersections, with clusters of foliage. The lofty windows of the aisle are divided by single mullions. The nave is lighted by a range of clerestory windows, and the choir by a handsome east window, divided by mullions into twelve compartments. This appears to be the only remaining window of the splendid edifice erected in 1412, and destroyed by Lord Grey. Over the east window there are three handsome niches, with ogee pointed arches, containing, on pedestals, the effigies of the three Saints before-mentioned. The choir was handsomely fitted up with stalls for the dignitaries after its restoration in 1817, and the tower was completed in 1829, at an expense of £1,900. A further renovation took place a few years ago, and the whole structure, when I recently visited it, was in excellent order. The cathedral is 75 feet in length, and 54 feet to the separation of the nave. Each transept measures about 30 feet to the centre of the aisle. All remnants of the old structure are now gone, although there is a graphic picture of it in the vestibule, where there is also a good likeness of Jeremy Taylor. On the walls are handsome monuments erected to the memory of Mr. Bernard Ward, Mr. Philip Emanuel Brabazon, formerly surgeon of the Down Infirmary, and the late Mr. Hugh Wallace, of Downpatrick.

In the vestibule of the cathedral has been placed a very old memorial stone of Edward Lord Cromwell, Baron of "Okkham," who died on the 24th of September, 1607, and also of the "Hon. Oliver Cromwell, son to the Right Hon. the Earl of Ardglass, and grandson to the said Edward, who died the 19th of October, 1668."



The escutcheons on the walls are those of the Marquises of Downshire, Donegal, and Londonderry; Earl Annesley; Viscounts Bangor and Dufferin; the Bishop of Down; Dean Woodward; Sir Robert Bateson; Colonel Nugent, of Portaferry House, and Colonel Forde; Messrs. Hamilton, of Killileagh, Delacherois of Donaghadee, Ker, of Montalto, Gordon, of Delamont, Hall, of Narrow-water Castle, Stewart, of Ards, Johnston, of Ballykilbeg, and Craig Laurie, of Moyra Castle.

No trace of the round tower, or cross of St. Patrick now remains, but considerable portions of the earth over the grave where the remains of the great patron saint are said to rest, have been gradually carried away by devotees coming from a distance.

In 1787, the Rev. James Dickson, an Englishman, was succeeded in the deanery of Down, by the Honourable and Rev. William Annesley, who consented to allocate from its funds, the sum of £300 annually, for the repair of the cathedral and the maintenance of divine worship therein, and this allocation was afterwards rendered binding on his successors in the deanery, by Act of Parliament; but this source of income has, of course, been abolished by the Irish Church Act.

Various relics have, from time to time, been dug up amongst the ruins of the abbey, including an Agnus Dei, and pieces of painted glass and lead. Several cells were also disclosed, and, in particular, one floored with painted tiles, in which was found an image of St. Patrick, about two and a-half feet in length, with a mitre on his head, and a crozier in his hand, all rudely executed in basso relievo.

There is a tradition that Magnus, King of Norway, was interred in the cathedral.

The parish of Down was a rectory, united by Royal Charter of the 7th of James I., to the rectories of Saul, Ballyculter, Ballee, Bright, and Tyrella, constituting a union of the corps of the deanery of Down. By an order in Council, under the Church Temporalities Act, it was dissevered in 1834, and the rectories of Down and Tyrella, seven townlands in the parish of Ballee, one in Kilclief,

and four in Bright, went to constitute the incumbency of the dean. There is no glebe or glebe-house attached. The patronage was in the Crown.

The parish church of St. Margaret is a large and handsome edifice, in the Grecian style, rebuilt on an enlarged scale in 1735, partly at the expense of Mr. Southwell, then lord of the manor, and Dean Daniel. It was again repaired and new roofed, in 1760, and a third time, at a more recent date. Its dimensions are ninety feet in length by forty in breadth. It is not known whether it occupies the place of one of the ancient religious houses, or whether it has always been an independent establishment.

The cathedral of Down being somewhat differently circumstanced from the other Irish cathedrals, an exceptional statute became necessary for its regulation, and was accordingly passed by the General Synod in 1872, which makes provision for the separation of the rectory from the deanery, on its next avoidance, the appointment of dean by a Cathedral Board, the severance of benefices from cathedral appointments, the election of minor canons, clerical vicars, vestrymen, synodsmen, and cathedral wardens, the mode of constituting the cathedral board, the making of bye-laws, arrangement of the duties of the chapter, and the reservation of existing rights, with some other changes rendered necessary by the altered state of the law.

Dr. William Nelson, born in Downpatrick, was distinguished as a Greek and Irish scholar, and published several works on the latter language. He was professor of Greek in the Royal Academical Institution at Belfast.

Sir Richard Kane is supposed to have been born at Downpatrick in 1661. He was a distinguished soldier, who, for his gallant services, was made governor of Minorca by George II. He died in 1736, and there is a monument to his memory in Westminster Abbey. He fought at the Siege of Derry, and in various actions in Flanders and Canada, and sustained an eighteen months' siege against the Spaniards in Minorca, after all hope of relief was abandoned.

Duns Scotus, a learned and voluminous author, is said by Waddy, his biographer, and others, to have been born in Downpatrick, but the place of his birth is questionable, if we are to confide in the well-known distich—

Scotia me genuit, Anglia sumpsit,  
Gallia me docuit, Germania tenet.

Some writers have sarcastically said of him, that in his numerous folio volumes, there is not one page worthy of the perusal of a rational being.

Richard Swale, also a native of Down, entered the Marines in 1798, and attained the rank of colonel in 1837. He was distinguished for his bravery, and served in several general actions, being present at the landing in Egypt, and the capture of the Cape of Good Hope.

The parish of Bright contains a population of 1261 persons. Near the church, the remains of the old castle of Bright, being situated on a high hill, are visible from a long distance. The portion of the wall, still standing, is about forty feet high, and its thickness at the base is four feet six inches, narrowing to three feet. The principal mansions in the parish are Ballykilbeg, the residence of Mr. William Johnston, one of the members of Parliament for Belfast, and that of Mr. John Birney, at Oakleigh.

Bright was in former times the Church of Brick, and termed variously Bricht, Brichten, Breatten, and Breten, from the Irish Breatain, signifying speckled land.

The ancient chapels of Kilbride, Baliconyngham, and Gren Castel, were all in this parish, but no traces of any of them now remain. Kilbride is a townland near Killough, and Baliconyngham is another townland, which is now termed Quoniamstown.

The chapel of "Gren Castel" was annexed by James I. to the deanery of Down, under the Latin appellation of Viride Castrum. It was situated in the townland of Erynagh, and was then a distinct denomination.

The parish of Bright was formerly one of six, forming a union which constituted the corps of the deanery of Down, but it was disannexed by Act of Council in 1834, and formed together with the townland of Carrowdressex, which was separated from Kilclief into a distinct parish.

The church, a small edifice in the Grecian style, erected in 1745, contains an elegant monument to the memory of Lord Lecale. The patronage was in the Crown.

The old church of Kilschaelyn was in the parish of Bright, and also St. Finian's Well, referred to by Harris.

The family of Mr. Johnston, of Ballykilbeg, is of Scotch descent. William Johnston, of Killough, was succeeded by his son William, whose son John Brett Johnston followed him in the succession, and his son William, of Ballykilbeg, is now the representative of the family.

The parish of Ballykinler, anciently Ballycanlenor, comprises, according to the original charter, the lands of Inislochaculin, Lesscummalscig, Gannimor, and a moiety of Ballimeicdunen, granted by John de Courcy, to the Cathedral Church, as appears by the Black Book, probably about the year 1200.

Until lately Inislochaculin bore the original name, but the townland, which contained Inislochgullion, is now termed Middle Ballykinler, in the Ordnance Survey.

Lesscummalscig is probably the "Lismochan" of the Taxation which is still called Lismoghan, and it should probably have been so set down in the Ordnance Map, instead of Lower Ballykinler.\*

Gannimor, the great sand, is now the Rabbit Warren, at the south end of the parish, forming part of the Upper Ballykinler of the Survey. North of the Warren, near the shore of the inner bay, there is an ancient cemetery, in which are the foundations of a church called Killyglinnie, and adjacent is St. Patrick's Well.

Ballimeicdunem is now unknown.

The Earl's Park is in Upper Ballykinler, on the north side of

\* Reeves, p. 212.

the road from Dundrum to Killough, near the shore. It takes its name from the Earl of Kildare, whose mansion there is still inhabited.

The manor of Inislochcullen, containing the lands of "Ballekenloare, Lismoghan, and Ganymore," were let in fee-farm, in 1585, by the dean and chapter of Christ Church, and passed subsequently through various hands.

The Black Ditch was a rampart, now nearly levelled, running along the shore as far as Annadorn.

The Lake of Ballykinler was drained several years ago by the Marquis of Downshire, at a cost of £1100.

In the parish of Ballykinler stood the old chapel of Lismochan, but there is now merely a townland of that name, termed in the Ordnance Survey Lesmoghán, or Lower Ballykinler.

In 1427 it was found, by inquisition, that Janico Dartos had been seized of two carucates of land in "Lys Moghan," with the advowson of the church.

Ballykinler has been called the Town of the Candlestick (Baile-conleura), from its tithes having been appropriated to procure the lights for Christ Church Cathedral, in Dublin.

A valuable improvement is now in progress in this parish, and that of Kilmegan, under the auspices of the Marquis of Downshire, to whom the Inspectors of Fisheries have granted a license to plant oyster beds on the shores adjacent to the townlands of Ballykinler Upper, and Murlough Lower.

Ballykinler, divided into Lower, Middle, and Upper, contains 446 inhabitants.

The church of Rathmolyn, now the parish of Rathmullen, has a population of 1673 persons. A number of the people are employed in the herring, lobster, and other fisheries, and there are many good farm houses in the parish.

There was a lead mine, alleged to have been rich in silver, formerly opened, but the works have been long abandoned.

The ancient manor at Killough comprised Hamilton and Doon, the two latter being entirely within the parish.



The Rectory of "Rathmullen in Lecale" was "parcell" of the possessions of the preceptory of St. John, in the Ards.

Two detached portions of this parish are in the barony of Lower Lecale. Within its confines are several forts, and on a hill to the west of the church, is a cave thirty-four yards in length, which is divided into four chambers. There also some springs of a chalybeate nature. Rathmullen is the Rath-Maclain of the Four Masters, and some vestiges of an ancient castle may still be observed in the vicinity of the church.

St. John's Point, the Isamnium of Ptolemy, is a very prominent dangerous headland, which was the scene of many fatal shipwrecks, until at last a lighthouse was erected upon it. It is situated in  $54^{\circ} 27' 40''$  north latitude, and in  $5^{\circ} 24' 30''$ , west longitude.

This promontory, which is the property of Major Brown, was the site of a preceptory of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and a few slight remains of the church are still visible, having some resemblance to Egyptian architecture. In its vicinity have been found several stone coffins of singular form, various massive gold ornaments, and curious coins. Keane says the ancient Cuthbert's structure of St. John's peninsula is the most interesting in the province of Ulster.\*

Janeville, the residence of Major Peter Montague Browne, of the Scots Greys, is situated on this promontory.

Major Browne is a son of Major Browne, who also served in the British army. The family claims descent from the noble house of Montague.

The rectory of Rathmullen was impropriate in Mr. Stephen Woulfe, Miss Hamill, and Viscount Bangor, the patrons, in rotation, being that nobleman, and the Earl of Carrick.

The church, a small edifice, was built in 1701, and rebuilt in 1802. It was erected at a cost of £1200, bequeathed for the purpose by the Rev. James Hamilton. It is in the earlier

\* Towers and Temples of Ancient Ireland, p. 392.



English style, and occupies the site of the previous church. It is surmounted by a tower and octangular spire, and there is a glebe-house, and a small glebe attached.

The stipend of the clergyman, prior to the Church Act, was paid by Lord Bangor, supplemented by Primate Boulter's Fund.

Staghreel, the ancient church of Rathmullan, being appointed to the Hospitallers, was exempt from taxation, by a Bull of Pope Nicholas IV., and the chapel of Styoun, now St. John's Point, was formerly a portion of this parish.

The ruins of a church in Kilbride, near Killough, are now entirely obliterated, but some relics of a chapel termed St. Anne's, are still to be seen near the present windmill, adjacent to the town.

The chapel of Baliurgan is now Ballyorgan, a detached townland of this parish, adjoining Dunsfort, which was variously called "Ballyurcegan," Ballyverdgan, and Balleurcegan.

The tithes were appropriate to the Abbey of Bangor.\*

In 1693, the rectory was held by Henry Lesley. A portion of the west gable of the church still remains, and is commonly called Cappel-na-coole.†

Rathmullan is derived from Rath Maolain, implying Mullan's Fort.

Killough, called Port St. Anne, in the time of Harris, subsequently received the name which it at present bears. The population amounts to 718.

It has a central square, and several streets, with many good houses. Near the town a number of alms-houses have been recently erected, under the bequest of a Mr. Shiel, of Liverpool. The improvements in Killough were principally effected by the Hon. Michael Ward, one of the justices of the King's Bench, in Ireland, in the seventeenth century, and as it was inhabited by some merchants and other persons of condition, he built a convenient quay for the reception of ships of small burden.

\* Report Eccles. Com., p. 108.

† Reeve's Antiquities, p. 37.

At that time, fifteen vessels, engaged in foreign and domestic commerce, belonged to this port, besides twenty boats occupied in fishing. The principal trade was in the exportation of barley, and the importation of such articles of general necessity, as were required in the adjacent country.

At present the imports are principally limited to coal, and the exports to potatoes and grain.

Ship and boat building, on a very confined scale, are still carried on.

There are quays and piers on both sides of the entrance to the bay, the place having been greatly improved by the Bangor family at a cost of over £18,000.

Near the town, a charter school was erected by Judge Ward for the reception and employment of twenty poor Roman Catholic children, who were trained to useful labour, and educated in the principles of the Protestant religion, but this establishment has long been given up.

The port of Killough is much frequented by fishing vessels. The quays were materially improved under the superintendence of Mr. Nimmo, who expresses the opinion that Rossglass, which is adjacent, could be made a commodious boat harbour.

Killough has a good roadstead in off-shore winds, and within, it offers a safe, dry harbour, with a muddy bottom, for coasting vessels. The pier is on the west side, and between it and another smaller pier, on the eastern side, called Coney Island, lies the entrance to the port. Outside the mouth of the bay, an iron perch marks the water-rock, which is covered only at high water.

The best anchorage is within the Water and Plate Rocks, in from about five, to seven fathoms water, with shelter from all but southerly winds.

There is a red light at the entrance of the harbour. The tonnage at Killough is 2s. to 5s.; quayage 1½d., and ballast 2d. per ton.

At St. John's Point, "Quod nunc noscitur,\* St. John's Fore-

\* Blean's Atlas.

land," according to Blean, stands a very prominent lighthouse, about a mile and a half to the southward of Killough, visible at a distance of twelve miles, in latitude,  $54^{\circ} 13' 10''$ , and longitude,  $5^{\circ} 39' 50''$ .

The light is intermitting, red appearing of its full brightness, during 45 seconds, with obscuration of 15 seconds.

The St. John's light is shaded across the Bay of Dundrum, to a ship bearing to the southward, of east by south, half south.

The ancient name of the Bay was Slaing or Slainsaelar.

The Russells of Killough are a family of long standing, the name being formerly written variously, in the Chancery Rolls, as Russell, Russel, Rossel, and Rosel.

The Russells of Killough are descended from a member of the house of Kingston-Russell, a companion of de Courcy, who conferred on him a grant of the lordships of Killough and Rathmullen, in right of which he was described as "Unus baronum libertatis." He was succeeded by a long line of descendants. Thomas Russell, Baron of Killough, is supposed to have been the fifth in descent from the follower of de Courcy; and Richard Russell was Grand Justiciary of Ulster, in the time of Richard II. The name of George Russell is attached, as Baron, to a petition addressed to Henry IV., claiming aid against the Scots, and the Magennisses, O'Neills, and M'Cartans.\*

After the death of Patrick, the last Baron, the property at Killough passed, by purchase, to his uncle, George Russell, of Sheep House and Killough, whose descendant in the sixth succession, John Russell, died without issue, when the Russells of Quoniamstown and Ballystrew, a part of the barony of Killough, became the representatives of the family. The first of the Quoniamstown branch was son of George, 9th Baron of Killough. After several descents, the property came into the possession of Patrick Henry Russell, who died in 1840, and was succeeded by his son, Thomas John Russell, whose son is the present representative of the family.\*

\* Burke's Landed Gentry, last edition, 1871.

In the reign of Charles I., the Russells had branched into five or six different families, viz., those of Bright, Rathmullan, Quoniamstown, Ballyvaston, and Ballygallaghan, who had large possessions in the eastern district of Lecale.

From Killard Point, the Coast of Down trends to the south-west, as far as St. John's Point, then turning northward for a little, proceeds irregularly westward, past Tyrella. It then again runs southward, with a dip to the westward, until it reaches Kilkeel, and Cranfield Point, when, bending to the north-west, it reaches Rostrevor, from whence its course is nearly due west, to Warrenpoint, where it may be said to terminate, although the tide flows up, in nearly a northern direction, as far as Newry.

In this course, there is a small pier below the village of Ballyhornan, and between Killough and St. John's Point lie the coves of Portava, Port Aliban, and Clark's Cove, where two or three fishing yawls are kept.

After rounding St. John's Point we come to another a boat creek, having a small pier, but in a dilapidated state. The harbours on this part of the coast are Ardglass, Killough, Dundrum, Annalong, Newcastle, and the Bay of Carlingford, within which are Rostrevor, Carlingford, Warrenpoint, and Newry.

The principal rocks lying along the shore, southward and westward of Strangford Lough, are Dawson's, the Garter, St. Patrick's, the Big and Little Plate at Killough, "Low Skares," opposite Tyrella, running out to the Cow and Calf, on which, although seldom covered, vessels have occasionally been lost, and the Hely Hunters, at Lough Carlingford, where the Hole is sheltered by a rock, affording an excellent site for a safe quay.

There is a dangerous rock between Warrenpoint and Newry, but it has been surmounted by a buoy.

The parish of Tyrella contains a population of 590 persons.

The only mansion of any pretension in the parish is Tyrella House, the residence of Captain Montgomery, a member of the house of Gray Abbey, son of the late Arthur and Lady Matilda Montgomery, a sister of the Earl of Macclesfield.

Tyrella House stands in a well-wooded demesne of about three hundred acres.

In 1832, a curious cave was discovered in this demesne, near the site of the old church. It is forty-three yards long, two and a-half wide, and five feet in height, divided into three chambers, which are sixty, forty-five, and twenty-four feet long, respectively. The last extends its breadth, at the widest part, to six feet.

In the adjoining townland of Glovel, is another cave of the same description, which has been known for years, and the hill under which it runs is called the Cave Hill.

There is a small village in the parish, also called Tyrella, which is merely a modification of the Irish name Techriaghla.

The church of Staghreel, now Tyrella, was variously called Taghrolley, Techrula, and Teghriola, *i. e.*, the house of St. Reaghal, Ryal, or Regulus.

The late Right Hon. George Alexander Hamilton, a native of the County Down, who resided some time at Tyrella House, was the main instrument in founding the Conservative Society, and the adoption of that title was due to Mr. Hamilton, who was a most consistent politician. He contested the representation of Dublin with O'Connell, and unseated him on petition. He was afterwards elected member for Dublin University, and he long filled the office of Secretary of the Treasury. When the Bill for disestablishing the Irish Church was passed, he was, to the universal satisfaction of its members, appointed one of the Commissioners, an office which he retained to the period of his death.

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## CHAPTER XXIV.

### Topography of the Barony of Lower Lecale.

THE two baronies of Lecale together form a peninsula, the Magh Inis, or *Insula Campestris* of Colgan.

Subsequently to the ninth century, the name of Leth Cathail superseded the appellation of Magh innis, and it is thus described by an early writer :—"Lecahull is th' enheritance of th' Erl of Kildare, given to his father and mother by Quene Marie; it is almost an island, and without wood. In hit is the Bushop's 'sea,' called Downe, fust built and enhabited by one Sir John Coursie, who brougt thither with him, sondrie Englishe gentlemen, and planted them in this countrie, where some of them yet remeynd. Though somewhat degenerate and in poor estate, yet they hold still their freeholdes. Their names are Savages, Russels, Fitzimons, Awdleis, Jordans, and Bensons." And in a manuscript, termed "*Descriptio itineris Capitanei, Josiæ Bodley*," copies of which are to be seen in the British Museum and the Library of Trinity College, Dublin, the writer gives an account of this district, which he designates "*Lecalam apud Ultonienses*," and in mongrel Latin, amusingly describes the coarse manners of the inhabitants in the beginning of the seventeenth century.

Leth Cathail implies the portion of Cathal, Lecale being the territory assigned to Cathal in the subdivision of the county, in the sixth century.

In Harris's edition of Ware, the district is called Daldichu, which signifies the district between the mouth of the waters—viz., the Bays of Strangford, and Dundrum. The dynasts of this territory were called Daldichu, and were subject to the "Magh-



enniseage," and it is worthy of remark that one of its chiefs, Dichu, was the first convert to Christianity, made by St. Patrick, in the North of Ireland.\*

The population of the barony of Lower Lecale, which, in 1841, was nearly 13,000, in 1871 had decreased to 8,512 persons.

The parish of Ardglass, Ardghlais, height of the streamlet, or High Green, contains (including 613 residents in the town of Ardglass) a population of 1,041.

By an order in Council in 1844, the townlands of Jordan's Crew and Kildare's Crew, formerly in the parish of Ballee, and the townland of Ross, formerly in Kilclief, were permanently united to the parish of Ardglass. The living, at one time, constituted part of the union of Ballyphilip, and corps of the Chancellorship of Down, which being dissolved, Ardglass became an independent rectory, the patronage of which was in the bishop of the diocese. The parish of Ardglass, anciently "*Capella Beatæ Mariæ de Ardglas*," was annexed by Charles I., to the Chancellorship of Down.

The church of Dronegle is now Ardtole, a townland of Ardglas, parish, in which there is a burial-ground, and ruins of a very ancient edifice, which was originally the parish church. The ruins of Ardtole church, which stand on a hill adjacent to Ardglass, are about seventy feet long, and about twenty wide. The east gable is still complete, but the west gable is level with the ground. The arch of the window in the east end is built with small stones, and is still perfect, and there were three windows in each side wall.† The graveyard, closely adjoining, is enclosed by a dry stone dyke, but there are now no traces of any graves.

The modern church in the town of Ardglass is a handsome edifice, with a tower and spire, ninety feet high, having a glebe and glebe-house attached.

\* Collect, Reb. Hibern. vol. iii. p. 238.

† See Dr. Reeves' elaborate work on Ecclesiastical Antiquities, in which will be found the ancient valuation of all the livings in the county, as contained in the Taxation.

Ardglass, which has been styled "*inclyta urbs*," is a place of great antiquity, although the trade, owing to the insufficiency of its harbour, was chiefly carried on from Killough, hence called by Speed, the river of Ardglass. According to the authority of Blean, in his "*Universal Atlas*," a church was founded here by St. Patrick, "*Arglass, ubi S. Patricium ecclesiam fundasse ferunt*."

In the reign of Henry IV., a commercial company from London settled in Ardglass, and in the reign of Henry VI., it is said to have had an extensive foreign trade, not perhaps extensive, according to our modern ideas, but comparatively so, as compared with the general state of commerce at the time. It had, at this latter period, received a charter of incorporation, with a portreve or mayor, port admiral, and revenue officers.

The trade of the town is now very limited, being principally confined to the import of coals, and the export of herrings and grain.

In the wall of the Castle of Ardglass is inserted a large freestone slab, two feet long, and one broad, with a cross engraved, supposed by some, to be the arms of the city of London, previously to the dagger being inserted in the dexter chief canton by Richard II., from whence the inference has been drawn that the London company had been established here at a period anterior to that first mentioned.

Near the beach of Ardglass there was a large building termed the New Works, concerning which nothing is now known, either as regards their purpose, or the period of their construction. They formed together a line of fortifications, 250 feet from east to west, and twenty-four feet in breadth. The walls were three feet, in thickness, strengthened by three towers, one in the centre, and one at each extremity.

The building was originally divided into thirty-six compartments, viz., eighteen on the ground floor, and the same number on the story above. Each of the lower apartments had a small arched door, and a large and square window, whence it has been conjectured, that it had been occupied as a secure place for shops, at some very remote period, perhaps by the traders who settled

here in the time of Henry IV. It was anciently called Horn Castle, either from a high pillar which stood on its summit, before it was renovated, or from a large quantity of horns found near the spot.

In 1789 Lord Charles Fitzgerald, the then proprietor, enlarged and raised a portion of the buildings to the height of three stories, in the castellated style, and from that time, it has been called Ardglass Castle, and been occupied as a residence, by the owners of the estate.

There is another old castle adjacent, called Cowd Castle, signifying in the Scottish dialect "wanting horns," and a third called Margaret's, both the latter being square structures. Two other square castles called King's Castle and the Tower, respectively, are situated about twenty feet apart. The former has also been rebuilt in a castellated style, and in its erection two of the more ancient castles were taken down.

Jordan's Castle, in the centre of the town, is a structure of some elegance, about seventy feet in height. These castles made a memorable defence in the Tyrone rebellion, under Simon Jordan, who held out for three years, until relieved by the Lord Deputy Mountjoy, in 1601.

It is uncertain by whom the castles above described were built, but the arms of Jordan, viz., a cross and three horse shoes, are fixed in a stone near the top of one of them, leaving the impression that they were probably erected by one of that family. Others attribute their erection to the Savages, who temporarily held properties in the barony of Lecale, once appertaining to the Magennisses, as appears from an indenture contained in the records of Henry VIII., which provides that Raymond Savage should have the chieftainship and superiority of the sept, in the territory of the Savages, otherwise Lecale, as principal chieftain thereof, and that he should give the deputy for acquiring his favour and friendship "one hundred fat and able cows, or fifteen marks, Irish money, in lieu thereof, at the pleasure of the deputy."

The Rev. Samuel Burdy, for many years curate of this parish, in the preface to his poems, published in 1832, describes Ardglass as a wretched village, the chief improvement then effected being the repair of King's Castle, which had been fitted up as a residence and lodging, and used as a temporary barrack.

It is now, however, a good town, consisting of one long semi-circular and several cross streets, in which many excellent houses have been erected.

Ardglass formerly gave the title of earl to the family of Cromwell, of Oakham, and more recently, that of viscount, to the family of Barrington, John Barrington-Shute having been created Viscount Ardglass, in 1720. Both titles however have long been extinct.

Closely adjoining the town are the Downs, an extensive plain or sheep-walk, admirably adapted for the enjoyment of air and exercise.

The public buildings are a coast-guard station, which is a handsome structure erected on a pretty wooded knoll adjoining the town, a petty sessions house, and a police barrack, with a post and telegraph offices.

The harbour of Ardglass was partly built at the public expense, though much improvement is required to make it a safe shelter, but as it has always three or four fathoms water at the entrance, it may be run for at night, and at low tides.\*

In the innermost cove, called Kimmer's Port, which is dry at low water, small vessels may be secure from the sea in certain winds, but after a strong south-east wind a heavy ground-swell sets in, and from the confined space in which it has to expend itself, it becomes excessively turbulent, and the vessels striking on the bottom, hold on with difficulty by their tackle, so that they are often injured, as there is no means of escaping into any of the other coves of the bay.

\* Fourth Report Harbour Commissioners.

Ardglass harbour may be known by the hummock called the Ward, several old castles, and a church spire on the west of the bay, at the mouth of which you can anchor, between Ringfad and Fennick Points, in from six to ten fathoms water, but if the wind blows from the shore, a small vessel may shelter inside the pier, under the middle castle, in from one and a-half to two and a-half fathoms water, either held by a warp to the quay, or run aground on the beach.

The harbour charges at Ardglass are as follows :—Anchorage under 50 tons, 2s. 2d.; under 100 tons, 2s. 8½d.; under 150 tons, 3s. 3d.; under 200 tons, 4s. 4d. The quayage is 3d., plankage 2s. 2d., and ballast 1s., per ton.

We have now to notice, as connected with Ardglass, the great family of the Fitzgeralds, who long held extensive property in the County of Down. They are of great antiquity, being descended from Dominus Otho, (supposed to have been of the family of Gherardini of Florence,) who came to England in 1057. Otho's English possessions, which were enormous, devolved on his son Walter, who married Gladys, daughter of Rhinallen Apcynfyn, Prince of North Wales, and their son, Gerald Fitzwalter, married Nesta, the daughter of Rhysap Gruffydd, prince of South Wales. Maurice, his heir, came over to Ireland, to the assistance of Dermot MacMorrough, King of Leinster, and laid the foundation of the fortunes of the family in that Kingdom. His son, the first Baron, was called General Fitzmaurice, and received in 1205, a summons to Parliament as Baron Offaly, and John Fitzsimons Fitzgerald, the seventh Baron of Offaly, was created Earl of Kildare by Edward II.

The extensive estates of the Fitzgerald family, in Leinster, are held by the Duke of that name, as "Coparcener" of the ancient Kingdom of Leinster, and Earl of Strongbow.

By an inquisition taken after the death of the Earl of Kildare, in 1585, it appeared that his property, in the County of Down, consisted of the manors (with the advowsons of the rectories and



vicarage) of Ardglass and Strangford, the latter being now the property of Lord de Ros, to whose sister, the Hon. Mrs. Swinton, I have here to express my acknowledgments, for the information which she obligingly furnished me with regarding the Fitzgerald lineage and possessions ; and if any readers should wish for further particulars regarding this great family, their curiosity may be gratified by reference to a work styled " The Earls of Kildare and their Ancestors," compiled by the Marquis of Kildare, now Duke of Leinster.

Several of the Irish chieftains having, in 1513, committed ravages in the English possessions, the Lord Deputy, Gerald Fitzgerald, the ninth Earl of Kildare, who died in the Tower, marched into Leix, then a part of the Pale, where he defeated the celebrated O'More, and dispersed his forces, and then marching north, took the Castle of Cavan, and having killed O'Reilly, and chased his followers into inaccessible bogs, he returned to Dublin, with his army laden with booty. These acts were highly approved by Henry VIII, who directed Archbishop Wolsey, to convey to him his thanks, and as a reward granted to him and his heirs male, in 1514, the customs of the ports of Strangford and Ardglass, in fee-farm, together with their members and creeks in the County of Down.

The value of this grant, including all the grand and petty customs of both the "havens" mentioned, amounted to £5,000 per annum, and this property remained in the family (except during the period of its attainder) until 1637, when it was purchased by the Crown, together with certain privileges of Carrickfergus, and the whole transferred to Newry and Belfast, and confirmed to Charles II., by the Act of Explanation (17 and 18 Car. II.) Thereafter the trade began to decline, until the place became a mere fishing village. In 1558, by the fifth of Philip and Mary, a patent was granted to Gerald, the eleventh Earl, and his Countess Mabel, and their heirs male, conferring on them the demesnes of the monasteries of Down and Saul, and the priories of St. John and St. Thomas, at Downpatrick, with the Priory of Inch, whilst



the rectories, and the tithes belonging to them, were assigned to Cardinal Pole after the death of the Countess.\*

Gerald, the fifteenth Earl, was born in 1611, and by his death in 1620, before he was twenty years of age, his mother, Elizabeth Nugent, daughter of Lord Delvin, wife of the fourteenth Earl, was deprived of her jointure, and the King, in consequence, assigned to her, during the minority of the sixteenth Earl, certain lands in Down, including Strangford and Ardglass, and other property elsewhere. This lady, being unfortunately concerned in the rebellion of 1641, was outlawed for high treason.

In 1634, George, the sixteenth Earl, obtained a grant of a weekly market and two annual fairs, at Strangford and Ardglass, but the customs of both these harbours having been confiscated, through the negligence of Valentine Payne his agent, Charles II., in place of restoring them to Wentworth, the seventeenth Earl, redeemed them, by paying the sum of eight thousand pounds.

By an order of the House of Commons, dated the 30th of June, 1641, a decree of the Council Board, at the suit of Henry, Bishop of Down and Connor, against George, Earl of Kildare, for the towns of Bright and Rossglass, was declared void in law, as extra judicial, and against the Great Church Charter, and "the said Earl was restored to the said lands."

By the will of Robert the nineteenth Earl, his estates in the County Down were left to his wife, the Countess Mary, and £500 to the Charter School of Strangford.

The Countess was the daughter of the Earl of Inchiquin, and mother of James, the twentieth Earl, and first Duke of Leinster. Her death took place in 1780, and the following extract of a letter of that period shows the further direction of the property:—"I think the entire town seems to mourn Lady Kildare, inwardly and outwardly. The Duke (her grandson) dont get much by her death, as her estates go between three of his brothers."

James, the twentieth Earl, was created a peer of Great Britain

\* Stafford's Letters, vol. ii., p. 91. Dublin Edition.

in 1746, by the title of Viscount Leinster. In 1761, he was advanced to a Marquisate, and in 1766 to the Dukedom of Leinster. He married a daughter of the Duke of Richmond and Lennox, by whom he had a numerous family, including Henry, Lord Fitzgerald, born in 1761, who, in 1791, married the Baroness de Ros,\* and Charles James, created Lord Lecale, who died in 1810, when the title became extinct.† Of the two brothers, Lord Henry succeeded to the estate of Strangford, and the Earl of Lecale to that of Ardglass.‡

The property at Strangford finally passed to the late William, Baron de Ros, a son of Lord Henry Fitzgerald, and it is now vested in Dudley Charles, the present peer.

Lord Lecale sold the manor of Ardglass to Mr. William Ogilvie, who had married the Duchess Dowager of Leinster, and under his management it recovered something of its former condition. He erected a church, schoolhouse, hotel, and some commodious lodging houses, and the town, consequently, was much resorted to for sea-bathing. The property afterwards descended to Mr. George Charles Beauclerc, a branch of the house of St. Albans, who married a daughter of Mr. Ogilvie, and their son, Aubrey William, came next in succession. He died in 1854, leaving his inheritance to the present proprietor, Aubrey de Vere Beauclerk, of Ardglass Castle.

Mr. Ogilvie having, in 1811, become entitled to the customs of the harbour, laid out over £22,000 in repairs, from time to time, and in 1827, a landing quay was erected, at a cost of about £5,000. In 1828 £2,000 were expended on a new pier and harbour, by the Commissioners, who had then charge of it, and who, in 1839, surrendered it, with its dues, to the Board of Works. Since that time, some repairs have been effected by the Board and proprietors of the property, conjointly, Major Beauclerk having constructed

\* Betham's Antiquities.

† Commons' Journals, vol. i., p. 440.

‡ Burke's History of the Peerage.

docks at his own expense. The claims of Ardglass, as a suitable port of refuge, have been, from time to time, strongly urged by Mr. Pilson, the proprietor of the *Downpatrick Recorder*, and by other parties, but so far, although much required on this part of the coast, the large sums of money expended on it have failed to achieve the end in view, and the inference is, that either the plan and execution of the works have hitherto been faulty, or, as we do not believe, that the place is in reality deficient in the capabilities indispensable for the formation of a commodious, safe, and readily accessible harbour.

**BALLYCULTER.**—Baile Cuilter, or Coulter's town, now an independent parish, was originally an appendage to Saul, under the appellation of "Ecclesia de Saule cum capella de Balicultre." It lies in a corner of the County, abutting on the Lough of Strangford, and contains a population of 1,503 persons. Several lead mines have been opened in this parish, but ultimately given up as unremunerative.

The principal mansions are Old Court, built on the site of a more ancient structure, the residence of Lord de Ros, Castleward, that of Lord Bangor, The Lodge, belonging to Mr. Price of Saintfield House, Isl'O'Valla, occupied by the Hon. Somerset Ward, a brother of Lord Bangor, and Strangford House, the residence of the late Hon. Harriet Ward.

The neat little town of Strangford, very much resembling an English village, is situated on the eastern side of Lough Strangford, about three miles from the open sea, and directly opposite the town of Portaferry, from which it is separated by a ferry, about one mile in width.

It is built something in the form of a crescent, receding from the shore in the centre, and approaching it at its two extremities, on one of which stands the Lodge, and Old Court on the other. The population in 1871 was 482. There was formerly a manor court here, having jurisdiction over the "parish and river of Strangford," the seneschal being appointed by Lord de Ros, to whom the principal part of the town belongs, its southern extremity

alone, called Ferry Quarter, having been acquired by purchase from Mr. Auchinleck by Major Nugent, a member of the Portaferry family.

There are two piers for the accommodation of the fishing and ferry-boats, and several quays, where vessels in the coasting trade take in, and discharge their cargoes. It has no market.

The trade is principally limited to the export of potatoes, and grain occasionally, and the chief imports are coals and lime.

Loch Cuan was a Danish station in the ninth and tenth centuries, and the name is supposed to have originated with that people, the term Strangfiord, indicating the strength of the current in the "fiord," or inlet of the sea. Another, though less likely derivation, is suggested in the following quotation:—"Quod olim Strandford, portus tutus ubi fluvius Coyn, magno aquarum insultu, in mare prorumpit," the latter clause most accurately describing the force of the ebbing tide, as it rushes violently towards the open sea.

It is recorded in some of the old annals, that in the year 1400, "the Constable of Dublin city, with divers others, fought a great sea battle here, against the Scots, in which many of the English were slain."

There are a constabulary barrack, post, money-order, and telegraph offices, and a Roman Catholic and Methodist Church in the town, as well as a coastguard station, the Inspector of the district being resident here.

The dispensary is at Churchtown, about two miles distant. There was a Presbyterian Church here, when Harris's account was published, but the edifice of his day has, within a few years, been superseded by a neat modern structure.

Strangford gave the title of Viscount, of date 1628, to Sir John Smythe, a member of a Kentish family, and Percy Christian Sydney, the sixth Viscount, acquired some literary distinction by his translation of the smaller works of the poet Camoens. The late Peer, Percy Ellen Frederick William, was the eighth Viscount. I do not know from what preference he assumed the

title of Strangford, as he is not, so far as I am aware, connected with it, either by property or in any other manner, but it is now extinct.

In the time of Queen Elizabeth a castle was maintained at Strangford, for securing the quiet of the county. Harris describes it as properly the port town of the whole lake, and although the Collector then lived at Downpatrick, he was obliged to keep a clerk on the spot. Subsequently a Collector, with a Comptroller, resided at Strangford, but of late years, the establishment has been broken up, and the custom-house closed, the port being now merely a creek of Belfast.

Strangford Castle, one of the old Anglo-Norman keeps situated in the town, is strongly built, the walls varying from about three feet six inches, to four feet, in thickness. The building is nearly equal in width and breadth, measuring rather over twenty-five feet each way. The stones employed in its construction are generally of small dimensions. The height of the building is about forty-one feet, and there are three windows in each of the apartments, which form the three storeys of the structure. It stands within the town, adjacent to the shore, being still in a pretty complete state, and now used for domestic purposes.

The following interesting extracts from one of the Irish State papers, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, directly refers to Strangford, and throws some light on the history of the period :—  
 “ 1567, March 17.—The Lord Treasurer of England, writing to the Lord Deputy, Sidney, recommends him to send two barks, with ordnance, to take Strangford Haven from Shane O'Neill, and to remove the troops hither from Derry.” And in 1601, Sir Ralph Lane writes to Cecil, that “the ports of Olderfleet, Carlingford, and Lough Coan, by the river of Strangford, are assured to the Spaniards, by Tyrone and O'Donnell,” and immediately afterwards he enclosed to the same statesman, his project for preserving Lough Strangford against all the forces of the Spanish power, by which it was at that time menaced.

The landing quays within the Lough of Strangford, in addition



to those at Strangford, are Portaferry, the Quoile, Kircubbin, and Killyleagh, the last built by Parliamentary grant in 1765, at a cost of £1200, and subsequently repaired, from time to time, by Lord Dufferin.

#### DUES PAYABLE AT STRANGFORD.

All vessels loading or discharging cargoes, at the Quays of Strangford, or any part of the beach, or boating to, or from, the Hole, two-pence per register ton.

All coasting vessels taking in ballast, unless they have discharged a cargo at Strangford, one penny per ton.

All vessels going foreign, taking in ballast, two pence per ton quayage, unless they have discharged a cargo at Strangford.

Cows, two pence per head; horses, three pence per head; sheep and pigs, one halfpenny each.

Vessels anchoring or coming to, in any part of the south-west side of the river of Strangford, provided they have not paid either anchorage or quayage on the same voyage:—

Under 20 tons register tonnage	.	.	.	1	0
20 „ „ and under 30 per register				1	6
„ 30 „ „ and not 50			.	2	0
„ 50 „ „ and not 70			.	2	6
„ 70 „ „ and not 100			.	3	0
„ 100 „ „ and upwards			.	3	6
All ships or three-masted vessels	.	.	.	5	0

Vessels coming to anchor, first at Portaferry or Ballyhenry, may afterwards, on the same voyage, anchor in Audley's Roads, or Cross Roads, on Strangford side, free of charge.

Portaferry lies just opposite the port of Strangford, and the navigation for both is the same, until far enough up the Lough, to keep to starboard for the former, where there is a good quay, with berths, and a smooth beach along the shore.

The harbour dues at Portaferry are from 5s. to 20s; anchorage 1s. to 3s.; plankage 1s. to 2s.; 2d. registered quayage, and 2d. for ballast dues.



The port of Killyleagh has a small landing quay, and the Port charges, which are made by agreement, are trifling. The plankage is from 1s. to 1s. 6d., the ballast 1s. 2d., and the registered quayage 2½d. per ton.

The port of Kircubbin has a small pier, where coals may be discharged.

The Quoile quay is situated at the termination of the navigable part of the river Quoile, which is tortuous and varying in depth, so that the harbour can only be reached by those acquainted with the channel. It is principally frequented by coal vessels, as those timber laden discharge lower down the river, not having sufficient draught of water to enable them to reach the quay.

Swan island, a small islet very near, and immediately opposite to the town of Strangford, receives its name from the belief that swans formerly hatched their young there. A pillar, standing on the western extremity of the island as a guide in the navigation, is a very favourite resort of the cormorant, which, perched on its summit, may often be heard sending its wild, shrill cry across the expanding waters of the lake.

The Church or "Chappel," situated in the grounds of Lord de Ros, on a beautiful site, closely overhanging the Lough, was built, says Harris, and the bell given, by Valentine Payne, or Pain, and Elizabeth his wife, in the year 1629, "and it was subsequently repaired and beautified, by the Earl of Kildare, to whom the town then belonged." Still more recently, various improvements were made by the late proprietor, in this picturesque little Church, which stands in the midst of an old burial ground, overshadowed by majestic trees.

The inscription on the bell above referred to, is as follows:—  
 "Valentine Pain and his wife Elizabeth gave this bell, and built this chapel, anno 1629, and it is said this Valentine was the agent to the Earl of Kildare."

The Church, which is the property of Lord de Ros, is by permission of his Lordship, used as a chapel of ease for the parish, and public worship is regularly celebrated in it.

Valentine Payne was agent to George, the sixteenth Earl of Kildare, and wrote to him, in 1629, to the following effect: "I have builded a chappele from the ground for y<sup>r</sup>. Lo<sup>p</sup>. I have likewise builded a key where there was none before, that the biggest shippe the king hathe may lay her side by it. Besides, I have builded a custom house, and have beestowed in other buildings alone, above £300, and have resolved to dye your servant.

"Dated at Strangford this 26 day of Octob. 1667."

If the description of Pain be correct, the king's vessels must have been of infinitely less bulk than in the present day. In the port of Strangford, the tolls are payable to Mr. William Russell, the harbour-master appointed by Lord de Ros, whose badge of office is a silver oar, bearing the Kildare motto and arms, authorising him to make arrest of goods for all harbour dues, if not voluntarily paid.

The property at Strangford came into the possession of the present family from the Earl of Kildare, to whom it was granted by King Henry VIII., as appears from the following extracts.\*

"The patent of Henry VIII., or grant by writ of privy seal, conveyed to Gerald Fitzgerald, Earl of Kildare, the manor or Lordship of Ardmalgham in the County of Meath, with all lands and tenements thereto appertaining, together with the port and all and singular, the creeks, fishery, and wharves, in the town of Strangford; and also our water called Lough Quoan, near the said town of Strangford, and all fisheries to the same belonging, also all wrecks, with all and singular, the tolls, customs coquets, poundages, subsidies, advantages, and appurtenances, within the town and port of Ardglass, as well on land, as on sea, and soil of Strangford and its precincts, as in our town and port of Ardglass, for the annual service of one red rose on the feast of the nativity of St. John the Baptist. And the said Earl and his

\* Taken from a copy of the Charter, the original of which is in the possession of the Duke of Leinster.

heirs may have power and authority, at their own free-will, to make, constitute, and ordain, and provide, officers of the customs and other servants, in the aforesaid town and ports, without any interference on the part of the crown."

The rights thus conveyed have passed, at Strangford to Lord de Ros, and at Ardglass to Mr. Beauclerck.

The title of De Ros is of great antiquity, dating as a barony by writ from 1264, but as a barony by tenure, it is more than a century older. The high antiquity of the coronet of De Ros is owing to its being descendible by writ, to heirs female, in consequence of which, at various times, it has passed to the houses of Manners, Cecil, Villiers, and Fitzgerald. Dugdale says, that Peter, the ancestor of this noble family, originally assumed this name, in 1157, in the time of Henry I., from a lordship in Holderness, called Ros, where he then resided. This Peter married Adeline, a daughter of the famous Walter Espee, and his successors in the direct line were, Robert, Everard, and Robert De Ros, and this last, surnamed Furfan, married Isabel, daughter of William the Lion, King of Scotland. He was succeeded by his grandson, Robert, who was followed by his son, William, the second baron De Ros, an unsuccessful competitor for the crown of Scotland, in 1292.

The next in succession was the eldest son, William, the fourth baron, who had the distinction of leading the second division of the English army, at the battle of Cressy. He was succeeded by his brother Thomas, and then follow in succession John, William, John, Sir Thomas, Thomas, Edmund, George, Maurice, and Thomas de Ros, the 13th Baron, created Earl of Rutland. Henry, the 14th Lord de Ros. Edward, the third Earl, married Elizabeth Manners, whose barony was confirmed to her son and heir, William Cecil, who died without male issue, and the title then reverted to his cousin, Francis Manners, the sixth Earl of Rutland, and 17th Baron, and he also died without issue, the title then devolving on his daughter, Katherine, who was succeeded by her eldest son, George, the second Duke of Buckingham, who died

in 1689, without an heir. The barony then fell into abeyance, which was subsequently terminated in favour of Charlotte Boyle, third Baroness De Ros, a descendant of the Earl of Rutland, who married Lord Henry Fitzgerald, son of James, first Duke of Leinster. The Baroness died in 1831, and was succeeded by her son, Henry William, the nineteenth baron, who died in 1839, and was succeeded by his brother, General William Lennox Lascelles Fitzgerald De Ros, Lieutenant-Governor of the Tower, married to Georgiana, third daughter of Charles, fourth Duke of Richmond.\* He died in 1874, and was succeeded by his only son, Charles Dudley, the present peer, and formerly colonel of the 1st Life Guards.

Castleward, a large, massive, and handsome structure, built in a mixed style of Grecian and Gothic architecture, stands on a commanding eminence, about a mile from Strangford, in a demesne remarkable alike for its extent, variety of scenery, and picturesque and extensive views. It derives its present name from a castle erected there, when the family first settled in Ireland, but the ancient name of the place was Carrick-ne-Sheannagh, *i.e.*, the Fox's Rock.

There are some fine trees in Castleward demesne, especially some yews of great antiquity.

As early as 1640 there was a large and influential connection of the Wards, in the County of Down, the descendants of Sir Robert Ward, who had been appointed Surveyor-General of Ireland in 1570, and who settled at Carrick na Sheannagh, which he had purchased from the Earl of Kildare. Bernard, the elder son, succeeded to the family estate there, and Robert, the second son, married a daughter of John Echlin, of Ardquin, and was created a baronet, for his loyal services, by Charles II. Bernard was followed in direct succession, by Nicholas, Bernard, Nicholas, and Bernard Ward. Whilst high sheriff of Down this last-named gentleman was unfortunately killed in a duel, by Jocelyn

\* Sir Harris Nicholas—Historic Peerage.

Hamilton, one of the Clanbrassil family, and was succeeded by his second son, Michael Ward, who was made one of the Judges of the King's Bench in Ireland, in 1725, and his son, Bernard, succeeded him, and was followed by his son, Nicholas, who was elevated to the peerage in 1770. Nicholas, the eldest son of the first peer, succeeded him, but dying unmarried, the title devolved on his nephew, Edward Southwell, third viscount, who married Harriet Margaret, a sister of Lord Farnham, and was in turn succeeded by his son Edward, the present possessor of the title, and a representative peer.

Justice Michael Ward was the first person to bring the marl culture into general practice, in the barony of Lecale, and in many ways he advanced the interests of his country.

Of the present Lord Bangor's brothers, three have served in the army, and one in the navy.

Audley's Castle, one of the many built by John De Courcy, stands in a commanding position on a point of land, which juts out into the lough of Strangford, within the precincts of Castleward demesne. The building is luxuriantly overgrown with ivy, and its upper portions have become somewhat injured by time, but the walls, to the height of nearly forty feet, are still in good preservation. In dimensions it is about thirty feet square.

The parish of Ballyculter was formerly annexed to the deanery of Down, and only separated in 1834. According to Reeves a church of stone existed here, long before the time of Malachi O'Morgair. The present church is spacious, and calculated to hold about four hundred persons, and the chapel on the grounds of Lord De Ros might accommodate nearly one hundred more.

The church at Ballyculter was built in 1723, and a spire added in 1770. The glebe-house is situated in the town of Strangford.

The church of Renles, variously called Killarnarde, Kenlys, Killerneedy, and Kells, anciently belonged to the parish of Ballyculter, and is now represented by the townland of Killard, in the parish of Kilclief. The site of the church is called Cargy.

By an inquisition of Edward VI., it was found, under the name



of Kenlys, to be a chapel of Ballyculter, appropriate to the Abbey of Saul.

Between Walshe's Castle and Audley's Castle, in the townland of Toberdoney, is the ruin of a small chapel, called Temple Cormack, where burials have taken place within a recent period.

The ruins of an old Church, probably the ancient church of Rathcolpe, now Raholp, are yet to be seen, in the townland of that name, on the left of the old road leading from Strangford to Downpatrick. A portion of both gables are standing, with parts of the side walls also. The building was thirty feet long, and twenty broad. The east window is splayed, being widest at the inside, and its arch or roof is formed by two long stones. The walls are about two feet six inches in thickness, and yellow clay appears to have been used in place of mortar, in their construction. The ruin is seated on a green, rocky knoll, surrounded by some old ivy-covered bore trees and thorns, commanding an extensive view of Lough Strangford, the Ards, and Barony of Dufferin. Near the base of Slieve-na-griddle, and the head of Loughmoney, closely adjoining the road from Down to Ballyculter, about three miles from the former place, may be seen some remarkable pillar stones, six of which are now remaining, in an upright position, and appear to have formed part of a circle about 120 feet in circumference. They stand from three to six feet above the ground, with an entrance, formed by two very large stones, 12 feet in length, set up edgeways, and inclining inwards, as if they had formed part of an arch. The pillar stones are not quite perpendicular, but incline a little to the east. They are called by the people in the neighbourhood the giant's grave. In some parts of Ireland, these ancient circles receive the popular appellation of Fin M'Coul's fingers.

Adjacent to the demesne of Castleward, there are four neat alms houses, which were built in 1832, at the expense of Lady Sophia Ward, for decayed females, with a small annual grant to each.

The Right Hon. William, Lord de Ros, long intimately con-



nected with the town of Strangford, attained the rank of General in the British service, and filled the office of Quarter-master-General in the Crimean war, until attacked by a fever, nearly proving fatal, from which, however, he ultimately, but very slowly, recovered. Lord de Ros was educated at Westminster and Christchurch. His principal writings are, *Memorials of the Tower of London*, of which he was the Lieutenant Governor, and *The Young Officer's Companion*, containing much valuable instruction to the young and inexperienced, with some tracts on economical subjects. He died at Old Court, in Strangford, in 1874, where his memory will long be gratefully remembered for his benevolence and amiable disposition, as well as his excellence as a landlord, and his strict attention to all his various and important duties.

His son, Dudley Charles, the 21st Baron, has a daughter, heiress presumptive to the barony, the issue of his marriage with Elizabeth, a daughter of the Earl of Wilton. The present Peer has successively filled the offices of Lord in waiting, and of Equerry to the Prince Consort, and her present Majesty.



KILCLIEF CASTLE.

The parish of Kilclief is fertile; and nearly adjoining the Castle, is a remarkable field, admitting of being successfully

cropped, year after year, without the application of any manure whatever. The population amounts to 747. There was an extensive manor here belonging to the Bishops of Down. The lands, with a mill erected on them, were let by the Bishop, of a former day, to the Reverend Peter Leslie, and they still remain in the possession of his descendants. The principal mansion is the Rectory. Kilclief Castle stands near the entrance of the Bay of Strangford. It was a large building, with two front wings, probably erected in the fourteenth century. In one of these was the staircase, and in the other a set of closets.\* The external walls of the building are in a good state of preservation. Kilclief Castle was at one time the See house of the Bishops of Down. The chapel of St. Mary "Macdalene," now Ringreagh (the grey point), formed a townland of this parish, although situate in the parish of Down. The Terrier describes it, as "Capella Sanctæ Mariæ Magdalen de Rinriath," and adds, that "it is the Archdeacon of Down's." It was annexed by Bishop Tiberius to the Abbey of St. Patrick.

There was an Hospital of Lepers here, some remains of which were not long since still standing in the quarter land of Drumroe, in what is termed the Spitalfield. In 1387, Robert de Vere, Marquis of Dublin, gave the charge of the Lepers' House of St. Peter, nigh Kyleleth, to Nicholas Lepying, clerk, and in 1415, its custody, together with that of the Hospital of St. Nicholas, at Down, was committed by the king to John Young, John Molyneux, and Walter Cely, all ecclesiastics.

In 1834, the townlands of Ringreagh, Carrowdressex, Commonreagh, Rossglass, and Ross, all of which lay detached, were disannexed from Kilclief by an Act of Council, and added to the several adjoining parishes, whilst in place of them, the two townlands, Killard and Ballywooden, were incorporated with Kilclief.† Kilclief, the ancient "Church of Kirkeleth," was

\* Harris, p. 218.

† Third Report on the Ecclesiastical Revision, p. 264, 1836.

variously spelt Cillcliath, Kilcleth, Kylcleth, Killclethe, and Killchliathe, an appellation signifying "the church of the hurdles." The Parish Church was styled "*Ecclesia Sti Kelani de Kylcleth.*" Kilclief Church was twice plundered, once in the tenth century by the son of Barith, and again, in 1001, by Sitric the Dane. The "hurdle church," so named from the Irish *kliath*, a hurdle, is supposed to have been erected by St. Patrick. The present church, a small, neat building, was recently erected on the site of that which preceded it. The patronage was in the Bishop of the diocese. There is a commodious glebe house, with a glebe attached. Another ancient church in this parish was the Church of Kilschaelyn, a name now obsolete, but it was probably changed for Carrowdressagh, the appellation of a small townland formerly belonging to Kilclief parish, although situated in the parish of Bright, to which it was subsequently annexed.

The chapel of Ros, now Ross, was in a townland of that name, which adjoins Ardtole on the north-west side, and the Church of Rossglasse, now Rossglass, a name signifying "the green point," was also in a townland so called, lying along the western side of St. John's headland, and forming the eastern margin of the Bay of Dundrum. The church stood near the site of the present Roman Catholic Chapel, but the remains were removed in 1834.

The Church of Balibodan and Abbot Grange was probably in the townland of Ballywooden, a detached portion of the parish of Saul, but the name is obsolete.

The Rectory of "Ballyoudan" and two balliboes in the townland of Wodanyston, *alias* Ballywoddan," belonged to the Priory of Crossbearers of St. John, in Down.\*

The chapel of Baliath, now the parish of Ballee, can boast of an excellent and highly cultivated soil, giving a very improved appearance to the district, in which the principal mansions are the Rectory, Ballyhosset house, and Ballee house, the residences, respectively, of Mr. Gracey and Mr. Stitt.

\* Reeves, p. 33.

The population amounts to 1,342 persons. Under the Church Temporalities Act, the townlands of Jordan's crew, Kildare crew, and Ballystokes, were disannexed, and added, the two former to the parish of Ardglass, and the last-mentioned to the parish of Saul.

The chapel of Baleath, variously written Belgach, Bealgach, Bealy, Bealgath, and Bally, is now universally called Ballee. In the taxation of 1306, it is set down as Baliath, shewing that the original name was Baile-atha, *i. e.*, the town of the ford. The Terrier says, "the prior had it always, and he was deacon, as the Bishop was abbot."\* Belgach was granted, in the twelfth century, by Bishop Malachi to the Abbey of St. Patrick. The modern Church is a large, plain edifice, without a tower, erected on the foundation of a prior structure in 1749. In the churchyard there are the vaults of two families of ancient standing, in the district, viz. : the Nevins and the Brighams, of Ballygilbert. In 1834 some rich golden torques, ornamented with gems, were found in the vicinity of the Church.

The church of "Saule," with the parish of "Balicultre," now constitutes the two distinct parishes of Ballyculter and Saul. There is a small village of the same name in the latter.

The principal mansion in this parish was Walshestown Castle, which has been replaced by Myra Castle, a modern building, erected by the present proprietor, Mr. Rowland Craig-Laurie, who came into possession, by intermarriage with the daughter of Mr. R. Foster-Anderson, the former owner, and who was the last resident in any of the old Norman Towers built (to the number of twenty-seven,) by de Courcy, round the Lough of Strangford. Mr. Craig-Laurie has effected great improvements on his property and residence.

The renovated mansion is a handsome castellated structure, with offices and other buildings planned in a corresponding style. Walshestown Castle has been inhabited by Mr. Anderson, and his ancestors from the time of Charles I.

\* Reeves' Antiquities, p. 42.

The remains of another of the square Norman castles, somewhat dilapidated, stand on the banks of the Quoile, in this parish, and may be seen on the right of the main road leading from Strangford to Downpatrick, about a mile and a-half from the latter town.

There were several ancient churches in Saul, in which St. Patrick is said to have made the first converts to Christianity, and where he died on the 17th of March, 493.

The Abbey of Saul, in Latin, *Horreum Patricii*, or *Saballum*, (in Irish, *Sabhal Phadraig*, *i. e.*, Patrick's Barn), was probably the first erected in Ireland, in the year 432. It was subsequently rebuilt by Malachi O'Morgair. The monastery was founded for canons regular.

Some hold that the name was *Samall*, which signifies, to save, pronounced by the Irish *Saval*, and hence *Saul*. The present church stands in the usual position of east and west, though stated, anciently to have stood north and south. Harris says, large ruins of this abbey remain, but here, as on all terrestrial objects, time, though slowly, has been surely doing its work, and the ruins, as I ascertained by a visit to the spot, are reduced to two small vaulted rooms of stone, about seven feet high, six long, and two and a-half broad, with a small window on one side. These structures probably served for the purpose of a confessional, or a place of private devotion.

One of them has now been converted into a tomb. The confessional is a peculiar narrow structure, with a stone roof, and the interior is filled with the debris of decayed coffins. The entire ruins now existing are enclosed in the churchyard, in which there are also two or three very old vaults and tombstones.

The ground is cumbered with the remains of coffins and human bones, scattered all round. One tombstone is inscribed with the name of Savage, of Dublin, the oldest decipherable dates being 1716 and 1723. Other stones bear the names of Ward, and one that of William Percival, of Dublin.

The chapel of Burcestown is now Ballynarry, a detached por-



tion of the parish of Saul, adjoining Ballyorgan, but all remains of the chapel have long disappeared.

The church of Balibren is now Ballintogher townland, but no trace of the ruins remain. St. Patrick ordained Tassach, the first and only Bishop of Rathcolp (Raholp), where some ancient ruins still remain.\*

The rectory was appropriate to the Cistercian Nuns of Down. "Ecclesia Ballentother is the last of the Nuns of Down—nine towns." It was formerly a perpetual cure, and part of the deanery of Down, but it was separated, by an order in Council, in 1834. By that order the three detached townlands of Ballynagarrick, Whitehills, and Ballynarry were also disannexed, and added to Ballyculter, and the clerical duties were transferred to the parish of Kilclief, to which were added the townland and tithes of Ballywoodan, which was separated from Saul, and in lieu thereof the townland and tithes of Ballystokes, severed from Ballee, and the townlands of Raholp and Ballintleave, disannexed from Ballyculter, were added to Saul, the clerical duties of the last two, however, remaining with Ballyculter.

According to some authorities St. Patrick was buried at Saul.

The unusual position of the ancient church, north and south, is said to have been occasioned by its erection on the site of the Barn, which Dichu, the prince of the district, and the friend and early convert of St. Patrick, had given to him for a temporary church.†

It is alleged that a round tower nearly adjoined the ruins, but, if so, all traces of it have long disappeared, and I find no record of it in ancient annals. There is a very curious carved stone, about eight feet high and fifteen inches broad, bearing the Key of St. Peter, and another exhibiting a lamb's head, both evidently of great antiquity, built into the side walls of the entrance gate.

The present church, a plain structure, without tower or spire, was erected on the site of part of the ancient abbey.

The church of Cnockengarre, *i. e.*, the short hillock, was, perhaps

\* Old Ireland, in *Newry Telegraph*, 1875.

† Reeves' *Antiquities*, p. 40.



the church of St. Mary, situate near Walshestown Castle, of which some remains were found by Mr. Anderson, many years ago. By some it was supposed to have been parochial, but more likely it was appropriated to the use of the garrison formerly stationed in the castle. On levelling the churchyard attached, in the early part of the present century, coins of the reigns of Henry I. and II., Robert Bruce, and Richard III. were found.\*

In the first year of Edward I. (1272), the Convent of St. Patrick's Abbey of Sabull elected Moly, Prior of Bangor, as Abbot without license, and the Bishop of Down appointed Gallipidium de Storks to the same preferment, but the king's writ was subsequently issued for the restitution of the temporalities to the latter ecclesiastic.

There was formerly an old cemetery in the townland of Ballysugah. Great interest has always attached to the parish of Saul, from its connection with the history of St. Patrick, many authentic particulars of which are recorded in the Book of Armagh, compiled in the Irish language, as it was written more than eleven hundred years ago. This curious work may be consulted, both in English and Latin, as well as the "*Confessio Sancti Patricii, sive Epistola ad Hibernos*," in Betham's Irish Antiquarian Researches. The Book of Armagh also contains the only existing copy of the New Testament, that was used in the ancient Irish Church, and the Confession of St. Patrick, composed originally in Latin, comprises a brief account of the writer's early life, religious views, and missionary labours.

The "Church of Dunesford," now the parish of Dunsfort contains both a Protestant and Roman Catholic church, and there is a post-office at Bishop's Court. At Ballyhornan coals are occasionally discharged, and small quantities of grain shipped. There is a small boat harbour at Sheepland, the property of Colonel Magennis, who is descended from the territorial lords of Iveagh, one of whom, Sir Arthur Magennis, was raised to the Peerage, in 1563, as Viscount Magennis of Iveagh. Colonel Magennis is mar-

\* Inq. 3 Ed. VI. in the Terrier.

ried to a sister of the Earl of Belmore. There is a coastguard station opposite Gun's Island, which lies close to the mainland, and contains some good arable land. When the tide is out the island may be entered without boats, from the coastguard station. The church of Dunsfort is a small but neat building, the patronage of which was in the bishop, and a commodious glebe-house is attached. Dunsfort appears to have taken its name from Rogerus de Dunsford, a follower of de Courcy. The rectory was appropriated to the Abbey of St. Patrick. In 1609 it became the head of the corps of the "Prebend of Dunsport," the third in the Cathedral of Down.

The chapel of Lismolyn is now represented by Bishop's Court, a townland in the parish of Dunsfort. It is still the property of the See of Down, and, as implied in the name, the bishop had anciently a residence here. In the fifteenth century the prebend of Lismolyn was annexed to the church of "Kyleleth."

The parish of Inch, lying about two and-a-half miles from Downpatrick, contains a population of 1558 persons.

There is both slate and lead in the parish, but the mines have long ceased to be worked.

The principal houses are the Rectory, not far distant from the church, and Finnebrogue House. The mansion is commodious and handsome, and situated in an extensive and picturesque demesne, well wooded, and including some beautiful islands, highly ornamented with plantations. Harris, in his day, referred to it "as a good house and fair plantations," the possession of Robert Maxwell, Esq. The late John Waring Maxwell was succeeded by the present representative of the family, Major Perceval Maxwell, of Finnebrogue House. The family is of ancient Scotch lineage, descended from the very Rev. Robert Maxwell, second son of Sir John Maxwell, Knt., of Calderwood, in Scotland, who came over to Ireland in the latter end of the reign of Elizabeth, by order of James VI., in order to secure an interest for his Majesty in that kingdom. He was appointed Dean of Armagh, and from him descended the houses of Farnham, Fellows-Hall, and others.

His son, Dr. Robert Maxwell, Bishop of Kilmore, married a daughter of Bishop Echlin, and his grandson, John, was the first Lord Farnham.

Dr. George Walker, the celebrated Governor of Londonderry during its memorable siege, was married to Isabella Maxwell, of Finnebrogue, and he was doubly connected with the family by the marriage of his sister with William Maxwell, of Falkland.

The chapel of Ines, now the parish of Inch, had originally the Irish appellation of Iniscumscraidh (pronounced Iniscooscry, *i. e.*, Cooscragh's Island), Inis, in that language, signifying an island. It was in reality a peninsula, but the distinction was not closely recognised in those days.

The Abbey of Inch, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was built by John de Courcy in 1188, to make his peace with heaven, for having demolished the Benedictine Abbey of Erynagh, or Carrig, (so named from being situated on a rock,) founded by Magnellus Makenlefe, a petty prince of Ulster, in 1127. In the continual feuds which devastated the country, it had been converted into a garrison, which was taken and destroyed by de Courcy, and its possessions transferred to the Abbey, which he had erected in the parish of Inch, and to which he had brought a body of Cistercian Monks from the Monastery of Finnes, in Lancashire. Some remains of the Abbey may still be seen about a quarter of a mile from the Cathedral of Down, but separated from it by the Quoile river. The choir is nearly perfect, having three lofty windows, with Gothic arches at the east end, and two windows in the north and south walls, each with two arches.

To the north of these ruins there are some remains of the ancient parish church, erected in 1610, partly with the materials of the old abbey. These ruins are very picturesque, and the spacious cemetery adjoining is still used as a burial-place.

The following extract, taken from the *Belfast News-Letter*, 1875, is interesting, as showing the result of Mr. Maxwell's exertions for having the remains of the Abbey developed:—"The church, hitherto supposed to have been but 80 feet long, is

now shown to have been over 170, *i. e.*, 60 feet longer than the church at Greyabbey. The foundations and some of the walls of the nave, till now buried and unknown, have been exposed. This building, considered aisleless, is now shown to have had narrow side aisles. The work of their development involves much time and care, but it has hitherto been very successful. Some chaste carvings have been exposed, and some scraps of beautiful stained-glass have been turned up, whilst search is at present being made for the "night stair" in the south transept, a peculiar Cistercian conventual feature."

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## CHAPTER XXV.

### Topography of the Barony of Upper Ards.

THE Barony of Upper Ards in 1871, included a population of 12,639 persons.

The district of Ards, formerly designated "*Altitudo Ultorum juxta Mare Orientale*," the Heights of Ulster near the Eastern Sea, is situated between the Lough of Strangford and the open sea. It is divided into two baronies—viz., the Upper, anciently termed the Little Ards, and the Lower, designated the Great Ards.

The Little Ards, which extends from Ballywalter to Ballyquintin Point was, in old times of less dimensions, and is thus described by an ancient writer—"Little Ards lieth on the north side of the river of Strangford, a fertile champion country; it is the inheritance of the Lords Savage, hereditary Seneschals of the county of Ulster, from the time it was an earldom, who hath now for certain years farmed the same to Captain Peers. There are, besides, dwelling here certaine ancient freeholders, of the Savages and Smiths, able to make amongst them all, some thirty horsemen and sixty footmen. They are often harrowed and spoyled by them of Clandeboy, with whom the borders of their landes doth joine."

Amongst the English families who settled in the Ards, as early as the twelfth century, were the Savages, who were of ancient Anglo-Norman descent. But, upon the confusion that ensued, after the murder of the Lord William Burgh, Earl of Ulster, the sept of Hugh Boy O'Neil, who were inheritors of part of Tyrone, drove them almost out of the district, and confined them to a small territory in the southern part of the

peninsula, in and about Portaferry. Others they forced into Lecale, but the Little Ards was the scene of many a bloody contest between them and the Irish chieftains, who fruitlessly strove to deprive them of this remaining part of their territory, and, in order to resist their aggressions, the Savages erected various strongholds, of which the ruins of three, viz., Quintin Bay, Newcastle, and Kirkistown Castle, still remain.

The Savages are a family of great antiquity. In a manuscript, preserved in the Tower of London, of date 1405, Robin, son of William Savage, is named as one of John de Courcy's hostages for his appearance before King John, and amongst this monarch's earlier appointments of the Ulster Barons we find the names of Robinson, William, and Bisset, "Salvage." At one time this family adopted the name of Macseneschal, on account of their having so frequently filled the office indicated. Thus the *alias* of Edmond Savage, proprietor of the Little Ards was Ferderagh Macseneschal.

The title Lord Savage frequently occurs in ancient writings, the last Baron who bore the honour being Patrick Lord Savage, of the Little Ards, who died in the reign of James I.

Angus of the Satires, justly entitled to the appellation from his coarse and sarcastic style, visited the Ards in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and referred to the district in the following disparaging terms :—

"The Ards of Uladh scarce and starving, is a country without happiness, and without religion," a description totally inapplicable in the present day.\*

The Savages principally resided in the Ards, or in their castles of Portaferry, Ardkeen, and Ballygalgot; and as they occasionally made successful raids into Lecale, they were sometimes designated Lords of "Leath Cathail," but they never gained a permanent footing there, being repelled by the O'Neills and Fitzgeralds, and subsequently their claims in this barony were denounced by order

\* Donovan's MS. in the Royal Irish Academy.



in Council, in consequence of their attempts to usurp the castle of Kilclief, from the Bishop of Down.

In 1602, the Savages in the Little Ards were very numerous, whilst others had settled in Lecale, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, as appears from Morrin's Calendar. Kilclief was the headquarters of the Fitzsymonds, who were descendants of Simon Savage, but known in 1640 as a distinct sept; and the names of above twenty of the chief men, including Sampson Fitzgalleroney, Fitzsymonds, and William Fitzgalleroney Fitzsymonds have been left on record.

The Ardkeen branch of the Savages is represented by Mr. Clayton Bayly Savage, proprietor of the Hollymount property.

Rowland Savage, who was Lord of the Little Ards in the middle of the sixteenth century, was succeeded in direct or collateral descent by Patrick Rowland Savage, Patrick Hugh, Patrick Edward, James, John, Andrew, Patrick John and Andrew Savage, who is the present representative of the Portaferry branch of the family.

Colonel Andrew Savage married a daughter of the first Viscount de Vesci, and his son, Patrick John, a daughter of the second holder of that title.

John Boscawen was a distinguished member of the Savage family. He entered the army in 1762, and afterwards obtained a commission in the marines, in which he remained until he attained the rank of Major-General in 1837. He took part in many of the great naval actions of the time, and was severely wounded at the battle of the Nile. His death took place in 1843.

Sir James Stronge, of Tynan Abbey, is a descendant of the ancient family of Strang, or Stronge, of Ballycaskie, in Fife. Matthew Stronge came to Ireland in 1713, and settled first in the County of Londonderry, and the family subsequently became connected with the County of Down by intermarriages with the Nugents of Portaferry. The first Baronet was the Rev. James Stronge, who was elevated to that rank in 1750.

Owing to its exposure to the sea-breezes, planting in many parts

of the Ards does not succeed. This barony, like the rest of the country is generally hilly, and owing to the paucity of water-power, wind-mills may be seen on various elevations throughout the district.

The Parish of Ballywalter, Baile Bhaiteir, Walters Town, sometimes called Whitechurch, Ecclesia Alba, or Templefinn, contains a population of 735 persons, to which we should add the residents in the town of Ballywalter, making a total of 1,437.

The principal mansions are Ballyatwood House, formerly possessed by the Hamill family, and Ballywalter Park, called Springvale, when in possession of the Matthews family, from whom it passed by purchase to Mr. Andrew Mulholland, the father of the present proprietor.

The brothers, the late Andrew and Sinclair Mulholland were the first to introduce into Belfast the spinning of flax by machinery, and their mills continue to be worked with success to the present day. Having both acquired large fortunes by their intelligence and enterprise, they settled in the County of Down, the former at Ballywalter Park, and the latter at Eglantine, near Hillsborough.

The family of Mulholland is of Scottish lineage, and descended from a branch of the ancient sept of MacLellan, in Argyle, who emigrated to Antrim.

Some ruins of the old church still remain in the townland of Whitechurch, about a quarter of a mile north-west of Ballywalter. The patronage of this parish was formerly in the Primate. It was endowed with the tithes of Ballynafegh, and augmented out of Primate Boulter's Fund. Anciently the rectory was appropriated to Black Abbey, and the present church, a neat, towered building, was erected in 1826.

Ballywalter Park is a handsome mansion, and the demesne is well furnished with fine trees, especially evergreen oaks, one of which is said to be the oldest in Ireland. The farm buildings are on the most approved models, and the stock of cattle of the best descriptions.

The parish of Inishargy, Inis Earcaigh, Earc's Island, contains a population of 1,421 persons, and, adding 621 residents in the town of Kircubbin, the total amounts to 2,042.

The parish of Inishargy was the church of Inyscarga of the taxation, of 1306, and the name was variously written, Iniskarrack, and Inchemekargi, and implying the "Island of the Rock."

The rectory was appropriated to Black Abbey, and in a roll of James I. it is called the island or lough of "Inischargy," but drainage and cultivation have rendered the term of island no longer applicable

The church of Rone as well as the chapel of Grangie were in this parish, but there are no remains of these structures. There is, however, a townland called Gransha within its confines. The modern church of Inishargy is in the townland of Balligan. A chapel called Row or Rue stood near Reubane House, and four townlands attached belonged to the Abbey of Movilla. In a place called the Chapel Field, about a furlong east of Kircubbin, there was a small church which gave name to the town. To this church belonged the townlands of Kilcooby or Kilcubyn, and Ballymullen, granted about the year 1300 by William de Maundeville to the priory of St. John the Baptist, in Down, under the designation of "Cubynhillis in tenemento de ynchemkargy."\*

The Church of St. Medumny is now unknown.

The Church of Rone was subsequently called Dromrowan, *alias* Drumfyn, and formed an improper rectory, comprising the townlands of Drumroan and Ballyhiggin, belonging to the Abbot of Movilla. The names of these towns are now forgotten, but the townlands of "Ballyobekin," (another appellation for them,) as well as the townland of Balligan, lie at the north-east extremity of the parish of Inishargy.

The church stands in the town of Kircubbin, which is neatly built, but it is of modern growth, having sprung up since 1790.

\* Rol. Pat. 10 Ed. III., p. 2. M. 35, and Reeves' Antiquities, p. 19.

There is a landing place constructed by the late Hon. Robert Ward, who also erected a brown linen hall for the accommodation of the people. Straw bonnets were formerly extensively made here, and gave employment to the female population, but this branch of industry has latterly declined.

The principal houses in the parish of Inishargy are the parsonage house, adjoining Kircubbin, Rhoddan's House, the property of Mr. Blakiston-Houston, Ballyobegan House, belonging to Mr. Allen and Nunsquarter, to another gentleman of the same name. Tubbernacarrig was the residence of the late Colonel Ward. Inishargy House, near which are the ruins of a church, was the ancient mansion house of the Bailey family.

Rheubane House, subsequently obtained the name of Echlinville, the Echlin family having resided here for some generations. Mr. Echlin, one of the early proprietors, received a prize from the Dublin Agricultural Society for sowing 100 acres of barley on reclaimed moss, being the largest quantity produced by any individual throughout the kingdom in a single year. Echlinville, by purchase, subsequently came to Mr. James Cleland, who restored and improved the mansion, to which he has restored the original name of Rheubane or Rowbane.

This property was held on a bishop's lease by the family of Echlin, for several generations, even prior to the rebellion of 1641, as well as several townlands adjacent, in freehold, including the manor of Cloughey, which had belonged to the Commanders of St. John, at Castleboy. The jurisdiction of the manor court extended over the Liberties of Castleboy, and the adjoining parishes of Slanes, Ballytristan, and a part of the parish of Witter.

The parish of St. Andrews, or Ballyhalbert, anciently the Church of Talbetona, took its name from an English family, who settled here.

The village of Ballyhalbert is a little port on the eastern coast of the Ards, on the road from Portaferry to Donaghadee, opposite to which lies Burial Island, the most easterly point in Ireland.

The village of Ballyhalbert contains a population of 454 persons, which, added to 1872 in the rural districts, brings up the number to 2326.

The principal mansion is Glastry House, formerly a residence of one of the Savage family. The signification of Ballyhalbert is Halberts's Town.

There are some remains of the old church, (which was used for divine service, in 1622,) near the village of Ballyhalbert. The vicarages of Ballyhalbert, Ballywalter, and Inishargy were united under the second of Queen Anne, but they were subsequently separated, the two first being formed into rectories, and the last into a vicarage.

By a charter of James I. Talpestone was constituted the second prebend in the Cathedral of Down.

The united parishes of Inishargy, Ballywalter, and St. Andrew, formed part of the possessions of a Benedictine monastery founded by John de Courcy, in the twelfth century, as a cell to the Abbey of St. Mary, in Normandy.

It was designated in the charter of foundations as the Abbey of St. Andrew de Stokes, though usually known as the Black Abbey, but the abbey itself was situated in the parish of Grey Abbey, and endowed with three townlands, besides tithes and other possessions. Formerly the chapel of Anearchaid, or church of Ardrache, also belonged to Black Abbey, which was seized into the king's hands, in 1395, as an alien priory, and granted to the Primate of all Ireland, who annexed it to his see.

The priory and its appurtenances had been appropriated by the O'Neils, but in consequence of the rebellion of this family, it escheated to the Crown, and was subsequently granted by James I., to Sir James Hamilton (Lord Clandeboy), who afterwards assigned it to Sir Hugh Montgomery (Lord Viscount Ardes), and in 1639, it was again finally awarded to the Primate.

The Parish of Ardkeen, anciently the Church of Arkene, Ardcoyne, Archin, or Arwoghun, fortified as it is on three sides, was long a stronghold not only against the Danes, but also against



the O'Neils, and other native enemies of the Savage family, one of its earliest members, Raymond Savage, a follower of de Courcy, having erected here in 1196, a strong castle, which became the principal residence of the tribe during the long period of their faithful adherence to the English monarchs.

It was besieged by Shane O'Neil, after he had overrun the adjacent country, but being bravely repulsed and obliged to retreat, he never penetrated further southward.

The only parts of the old castle which now remain are the foundations, which are to be traced on an eminence still called Castle-hill.

Harris deduces the name of Ardkeen from its situation on Lough Coyne, but its proper derivation is from Ard Caoin, signifying the beautiful height. The population of the parish in 1871 amounted to 1,507 persons, including the residents in the adjacent islands in Lough Strangford.

Ardkeen was formerly a perpetual curacy; but the northern part of the parish of Witter was annexed to it in 1834, when it was constituted a distinct rectory.

The old church stood on a peninsula, in the extreme west of the parish, but a neat modern building has been erected within a few years in a more central position.

In the old church there were several monuments of the Savage family, who were its founders. The site of the chapel of Moyn-dele is now unknown.

The old castle of Kirkistown is in the parish of Ardkeen, as well as the ruins of Ballygalgot, erected by Rowland Savage, after the accession of James I.

Kirkistown is now the property of Mr. Hugh Montgomery, of Grey Abbey.

When recently paying a visit to the place I found the castle in wonderfully good condition, repairs having been effected from time to time by the Montgomery family.

It is surrounded by a stone wall, and the outworks have two large circular bastions. Part of what appears to have been the



original stone roof is still remaining, as well as the floors, which are, however, of subsequent construction.

The doors are gothic or pointed, and there are small side rooms off the main apartments.

Winding flights of stone stairs, still entire, lead to the summit of the building, the last occupant of which was a Colonel Johnston.

The church of Ardquienne, now the parish of Ardquin, Ard Chuinn (Conshill), comprises, with the annexed islands in Lough Strangford, a population of 585 persons.

There are several mills in the parish, but the facilities of water-carriage, for the export of grain and meal, have not as yet been fully taken advantage of.

The principal mansions in this vicinity are Portaferry House, the residence of Lieutenant Colonel Nugent, and Ballywhite House, the former standing in a lofty position, in a picturesque demesne, commanding extensive views both of sea and land, and the latter, the residence of Mr. John Warnock, is situated in the same vicinity, in highly improved grounds, overlooking Strangford Lough.

The Abbacy, built by Bishop Echlin, was destroyed by Cromwell, but the ruins are, in part, tolerably well preserved.

The east end of the building is about forty, and an old wall adjoining ten feet, in height. The gables, although much dilapidated in some places, are pretty entire, and about five feet in thickness.

A part of a side wall still remaining is about four feet thick, and ornamented with very luxuriant ivy. The building stood about eighty-one feet from gable to gable, and it was about seventy-nine feet wide. A side building is about seventy feet long, by thirty-three feet and a half in width.

One of the corner buttresses, still entire, is seven feet, by seven feet six inches, in width and breadth.

These ruins are situate in Thomastown, on a commanding site, in a well cultivated district.

Various antique reliques were found some years ago in different places adjacent to the Abbey, including a seal of lead, said to

have been attached to a Bull of Innocent VIII. Many of the letters are now indistinct, but enough remains to show that it is genuine. This curious relic, together with a box containing a number of silver and copper coins, some the size of a shilling, and others of a sixpence, of the reigns of the Davids of Scotland, and the English Edwards, were also found in this vicinity, and are now in the possession of Miss Filson, of Portaferry, by whom they were obligingly submitted for my inspection.

The Echlins are of Scotch lineage, being descendants of the ancient family of the Echlins of Pettadro, in the shire of Linlithgow, heirs of Philip le Brun, who obtained the heritage of the estate, and assumed the name of Echlin, of Echlin. The learned Dr. Robert Echlin, the head of the family, owing to the death of his nephew, in the time of James I., was promoted by that monarch to the Bishopric of Down and "Conyr," in 1613. In consequence of this preferment, the bishop came over to Ireland, having previously married a daughter of Lord Seton, and he resided in the Ards until the period of his death, at the Abbacy, in 1635. He was succeeded by his son, John.

The bishop had other issue ; and one of his daughters married Dr. Robert Maxwell, Bishop of Kilmore, ancestor of the Earl of Farnham.

John was married to a daughter of Sir Francis Stafford, and his son, Robert Echlin, about 1660, married Mary, daughter of Dr. Henry Lesley, the celebrated Bishop of Down and Connor. Robert was followed in the succession by his son, John, who was succeeded by his brother, the Rev. Robert Echlin, incumbent of Newtownards.

Hester, a collateral branch of the family, daughter of James Echlin, of Echlinville, married Thomas Knox, of Ballycreely, in the County of Down, and their second son became the first Lord Northland. The Rev. Robert Echlin was succeeded by his son, John, of Thomastown, followed by three Johns, in direct descent, and the present representative of the family is the Rev. John Robert Echlin, now resident in England.

The church of Feliptone, now Ballyphilip parish, Baile Philip, or Philipstown, contains a population of 3,235 persons, of whom 1,938 are resident in the town of Portaferry.

An old church, traditionally believed to have belonged to an ancient abbey, occupied the site of the present glebe-house, where human bones, tombs, and extensive foundations have been excavated from time to time.

The Rectory is situated a short distance from Portaferry. At Bankmore, in the vicinity of the town, there is one of the large raths, so common in this district.

Portaferry obviously derives its name from its position on the Ferry, which forms the main line of communication between the baronies of Ards and Lecale,

The intercourse is maintained by passenger-boats of safe construction, which ply at all hours, between the piers of Strangford and Portaferry, and also by horse-boats, expressly built for the conveyance of carriages and cattle, which are kept up agreeably to an ancient charter. Portaferry was a place of great importance as a fortified pass in turbulent times, nor did it at any period again fall into the hands of the Irish chiefs, after the country was taken possession of by the English. At first the town was only a small collection of cottages, built under the protection of the fort or castle, but it gradually grew into a considerable town.

The public buildings are, the market-house, a commodious structure ; and an endowed national Church Education Society, and Wesleyan Methodist schools. There are also a post-office, Constabulary barrack, Protestant hall, and dispensary. The places of public worship are, the parish church of Ballyphilip, and a Presbyterian, Methodist, and a Roman Catholic Church. The town consists of a square and three principal streets, with a range of good houses erected along the shore. The market-house was occupied, in the year 1798, as a place of resistance, by a party of Yeomanry, who repulsed an attack made on it by a body of insurgents.

The Castle of Portaferry, still standing, was an ancient seat of the Savage family.

The church is a neat building, now within the precincts of the town, having been transferred from the ancient site at Ballyphilip, where the incumbent had a residentiary house. It was erected in 1787, and recently repaired, through the exertions of Mr. Scott, the present rector. Some traces of the ancient church still remain.

Harris says, that the Roman Catholic chapel of his day was singular, as being "the only Mass-house" in the barony of Ards, but the present chapel is a large structure, in the parish of Bally-trustan, only a short distance from the town.

At one period Portaferry was a place of considerable trade. Harris states that before his time, thirty or forty ships had belonged to the port, but they were then reduced to two, the home-trade being limited principally to the transmission of corn, and small quantities of kelp to Dublin, and to the import of the ordinary commodities necessary to supply the wants of the vicinity. The trade, however, revived considerably after that period, employing a number of ships, either in the conveyance of emigrants, or in foreign traffic, but these branches of commerce have again fallen off. There are still, however, several vessels engaged in the carrying trade, the principal exports being wheat, oats, potatoes, and kelp, and the imports, timber, coal, iron, and various articles of miscellaneous merchandise.

The herring and other fisheries are still carried on, but not to any great extent. Lobsters and some other descriptions of fish are sent to Belfast, but the consumption is chiefly local.

The principal mansions in the parish are, Ballyherly House, the property of Mr. William Maxwell, and the Rectory, built in 1818, at a cost of £1,090, at present occupied by the Rev. James L. M. Scott, and standing on the site of the ancient grave-yard. In a garden adjoining, there was a crypt, mentioned in Archdall's *Monasticon*, which, in a boyish frolic, was blown up by Robert, second Marquis of Londonderry, and his schoolfellow, who were

at the time, under the tuition of the rector, the Rev. Dr. Sterrock. Another mansion in this parish is Quintin Castle, situated on the bay of the same name, two miles south of Portaferry. It was one of the old square keeps, but it was re-built and modernised, by the late Mr. Calvert, into whose possession it had come.

Mr. Scott, the present rector of the parish, is a member of the family of the Scotts of Willsborough, in the County of Londonderry, whose ancestor, the Rev. Gideon Scott, came over with King William, and purchased an estate there.

The small parish of Ballytrustan consists of three detached portions, one lying to the north-east, another to the south-east, and a third nearly due east of the town of Portaferry, all three being included in the parish of Ballyphilip.

The living of Ballyphilip, formerly in the patronage of the bishop, comprised, as united by charter of James I., the parishes of Ballyphilip, Ballytrustan, Slanes, Witter, and Ardglass, and constituted the corps of the chancellorship of Down. Ardglass, however, was subsequently disannexed. The church of Thurstaynistone belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, and the vicarage constituted Ballytrustan parish, otherwise called Trossnan, or Ballytrossnan, valued, in a commission held in the reign of Edward VI., at £1 6s. 8d. The ruins of the church are in the old churchyard, which is still used as a burying ground by the Roman Catholic population.

The church of Dere, now Derryisland, is in the parish of Ballyphilip, which formed part of the ancient county of Newton, when it was distinct from Down. Towards the northern end of Derryisland, are still to be seen the ruins of two roofless chapels, described by Reeves.

The chapel of Tener, now Witter, was a parish near the Bay of Tara, the rectory of which was appropriate to the Abbey of Inch, and Dr. Reeves expresses the opinion, that the townlands of Ballygalget, Ballyfineragh, and Ballywholland, as laid down on the Ordnance maps, constituted a part of this parish.

The exact site of the church of Ardmacosse is now unknown,



but its position, in the Taxation, corresponds to the parish of Slanes.

The small parish, or extra parochial liberty, of Castleboy consists of two detached portions, one lying within the parish of Ballyphilip, and the other and larger part, between the northern border of Ballyphilip and the parish of Ardkeen, formerly belonging to the Hospitallers. The population amounts to 647 persons. The signification of Castleboy, *Caistial buidhe*, is Yellow Castle.

A commandery or preceptory of St. John the Baptist, of Jerusalem, founded by Hugh de Lacy, in 1189, was kept up until the beginning of the fifteenth century. The buildings are now in ruins, but the remains, including the lofty tower of the church, are sixty feet in length, by twenty-two feet in breadth. So much of the east gable, as remains, is about twelve feet high, and fragments of the other walls, about one foot in height, are also still to be seen. The stones used in the construction are nearly all of small dimensions, and the windows were of lancet form.

In the townland of Ballygalget, anciently Ballygalga, there is a very old mansion-house, called Nunsbridge, which is still occupied as a place of residence.

In the time of Edward VI., there was a "Rectory, seu Ecclesia of Ballyfuneragh, als Ballywhymmeragh, in Arde."

The following extract affords a curious glimpse of the ancient monastic life, in the Commandery :—"The Prior of Kilmainham granted to Friar Thomas de Vallet, during life, his diet at the brethren's table, with clothes of the value of twenty shillings sterling, and half a mark yearly, for shoes, and also entertainment for his horse, and servant. The same prior granted to Robert, the son of Thomas, the reve or bailiff, his entertainment in the house, and clothes yearly, with the other free servants, or ten shillings in lieu thereof, he to undertake the office of farmer to the Commandery, and the like grant to be made to Thomas de Vallet, and, if confined to his chambers, his allowance to be daily two white loaves, and two of the coarser kind, two flaggons of ale,



and two dishes of meat from the kitchen, and, moreover, a proper place within the house, whereon to build a chamber for himself, but at his own cost and charges. To Henry, the son of Robert, during life, the employment of butler in this house, with a mark sterling for clothes, and other necessities, to be paid by the Preceptor, together with his diet at the Esquire's table, or in his chamber, if confined thereto.\* To Robert de Hagard, the Prior granted a *power to dispose of his goods and chattels at his death*, and the same year, to Brother Friar Stephen Kermardyn, chaplain, his corrody in the house, and a piece of ground within the Commandery, whereon to erect a chamber for himself, but at his own cost and charges."

The parish of Slanes, derived from Sleamhain, Elms, or, according to other authorities, from the Irish Slan, (Sanus,) a term sometimes applied to holy wells, contains a population of only 354 persons.

The ruins of Newcastle are in this parish.

The South Rock, on which stands the Kilwarlin Lighthouse, so called in honour of the second Marquis of Downshire, through whose influence it was erected, is off the coast of this parish. The building is of a conical form, having a base of thirty feet diameter, on which is raised twenty feet of solid stone-work, built hollow, so as to afford a residence for a family. The entire height is sixty-six feet of stone-work, and six feet of a lantern. It was first lighted in 1797. The light is from oil lamps and reflectors, elevated sixty-five feet above the level of the sea, at half-tide. To distinguish this light from the Copeland, which bears from it nearly north and south, distant six and-a-half leagues, it is necessary to observe, that it revolves on a perpendicular axis, and that it is seen in full force, from every part of the visible horizon, once in every minute. A large bell is tolled, day and night, during the continuance of thick or foggy weather. It is in  $54^{\circ} 23' 55''$  north

latitude, and  $5^{\circ} 25' 4''$  west longitude. £1,400 were granted by Act of Parliament, in 1783, for its erection.

The old churchyard of the parish stands in the townland of Slane, on a hill of considerable height, and within its bounds, the ruins of the ancient church, commanding extensive views both by sea and land.

There is now no church in this parish, and the Protestant inhabitants attend the Episcopal services, at the church in Portaferry.

The parish of Slanes may probably correspond to the ancient church of Ardmàcossce, a name now obsolete.

The portion of the walls of the old church, which I recently examined, varied from three to six feet in height, and the building was about eighteen feet wide, and about fifty-six feet in length.

At the time of my visit, a workman was engaged in deepening the fading letters on an old tombstone, to preserve a little longer, from total oblivion, the memory of some obscure name, and, although habited in less strange and peculiar garb, than that assigned to "Old Mortality," still the nature of his occupation, combined with the solitude of the situation, and the murmuring sounds of the distant ocean, mingling with the nearer clink of the hammer, could not fail to arouse vivid recollections of the scene so beautifully pourtrayed, by the most fascinating writer of all time.

Lough Strangford, of old Lough Coan, is conjectured to have been formed by an inburst of the sea. Harris supposes, that it is the lake referred to by Sir John de Courcy, who, in the foundation charter of the Black Friary of the Ards, endowed it with ten plowlands in the territory of "Art," in the lands of Maccologna, the ancient proprietor, and with all the tithes of his demesne, from the water of Darneart (a term literally implying, through the Ards), to the water of Carlingford. The extent of this lake, from the embankment near Newtownards, to Strangford, is about fifteen miles, and to Rock Angus, about a league more, the width varying up to three or four miles, and the area being 300 acres. It abounds in wild fowl, especially barnacle and widgeon.

The Lough of Strangford has been accurately charted by Nimmo, and subsequently by Captain Hoskyns, of the Royal Navy, and it appears that few bays afford such safety to wind-bound vessels, as there is abundance of water over the bar at all times.

Its capacities are very well known, and Captain Hoskyns, who had charge of the late Admiralty Survey, stated that, "if it were lighted, there would not be a better harbour of refuge in the United Kingdom, for all classes of vessels, including men-of-war." But great inconvenience and loss of life and property have been occasioned, in consequence of the want of a proper light at the entrance, as it appears from information communicated to me by Mr. William Russell, a shipowner in Strangford, that between the years 1833, and 1867, seventy vessels were wrecked, or seriously injured, and forty-three lives lost, attributed in a great measure to this cause. The pecuniary loss was estimated at about £49,125.

A light-house was petitioned for, in 1846, and built on Rock Angus, being completed in 1853, but, strange to say, it has never as yet been lighted, although in readiness to receive the necessary apparatus. It merely stands in its position, on a rock, at the entrance of Lough Strangford, as a beacon, and so far it is useful, being forty feet in height.

The Lough of Strangford is the only salt water lake lying entirely within the confines of the county.

About a mile south-east from Killard Point is Rock Patrick, covered at half-flood, but marked by a conspicuous iron perch, and a square basket top, about thirty feet high.

The depths between it and the shore are from six to eight fathoms.

Midway between Killard and Ballyquintin, is the reef called Rock Angus, on the inner or northern part of which stands the lighthouse tower.

There is a passage between Rock Angus and Killard Point, with thirteen feet water, but it is intricate from the number of sunken rocks, and should not be attempted by strangers.

Outside the entrance, about two cables' length south of Pladdy Lug Perch, is the Knob, another patch of rock, with eight feet of water over it, at spring ebb tides, and one cable length further, in the same direction, is the Bar Pladdy, with nine feet of water. Small vessels may pass between these shoals, and between them and Ballyquintin Point.

A stone beacon has been recently erected on Pladdy Lug, by the Commissioners of Irish Lights, to replace a wooden perch, which was often swept away. The height of the stone work is thirty-three feet, surmounted by a diamond-shaped iron framed top, nine feet in height, the total elevation being forty-two feet.

Another stone beacon has been erected on the North Rock, and a perch on Skullmartin.

On the Ards coast, a Pladdy signifies a flat sunk rock, whilst a rock, always above water, is termed a "Skerry;" and if connected with the land, so as to form a reef, it is named a "Skare," or "Sker."

The general sailing direction for entering Strangford Lough is, to bring Kilclief Church, in line with the spire of Ballyculter Church.

The mouth of the lough is between Ballyquintin Point, in the barony we are describing, and Killard Point, in Lower Lecale, and the safe and usual entrance is through the eastern passage, between Rock Angus and Pladdy Lug and the former point, sometimes called the North Bar, where there are over six fathoms water, when the tide is at the lowest.

The Rock Angus Reef commences from the southward, by a patch of sunken rocks, called The Potts, which are dry during spring ebbs, and about half a cable's length to the northward of these is the Garter Rock, which dries at half-ebb, and is marked by a perch twenty feet high.

Two cables' length, N. N. E. of Rock Angus, is another patch of rocks, called The Meadows, with ten feet of water over them, at spring ebb tides, lying a good deal in the way of navigation, but

there is a safe passage on each side, that to the eastward being the most direct.

Northward of Pladdy Lug and bordering on the channel, there are several outlying "Skares," running in the direction of Carstown Point, which must be carefully avoided by a vessel working in or out of the Lough, within which there are several anchorages, with good shelter, firm holding ground, and sufficient depth of water, for the largest ships to enter at all times of tide, but in the entrance, and for four miles up to the towns of Portaferry and Strangford, the run of the tide is extremely rapid, being seven knots in the Narrows, near Bankmore, where it occasions a whirlpool, called the Routing Wheel, and five and a-half knots, in the fairway between Rock Angus and Pladdy Lug.

When the tide is ebbing, and the wind strong from between S. S. W. and E., there is a heavy breaking sea, just outside the entrance, owing to the rush of the large body of water, from the upper part of the Lough through the Narrows, giving the bar the appearance of a ridge of sunken rocks, but it subsides, as the ebb slackens, and the navigation is then perfectly safe, and an anchorage easily gained.

The bar is, in point of fact, quite free from rocks, and there are not less than four fathoms water on any part of it, even at low tide. The flood runs in, for about two hours after it is high water, on the shore at Killard Point, and the ebb runs out for the same length of time, after low water.

Spring tides rise about fourteen feet at Killard Point, and ten feet six inches at the Quay of Strangford, and neap tides from six to eight feet.

Half an hour after it is high water, at Strangford Quay, the stream begins to run out through the Narrows.

Boate tells us that in "Loughcon," according to report, there were two hundred and three score islands, and Harris gives a minute description of them. Those he terms Big and Little Larichaugh are now called Long and Little Sheela, and the island which he described under the title of Inch or Iniscourcey, is, in reality, a

peninsula, now constituting the principal part of the parish so named, but the great majority still retain the appellations which they then bore. Many are mere rocks. The islands are laid down in the chart of Captain Hoskyns, to the amount of about forty, some of the most important being Chapel, Sheelah, Hare, Sketrick, Castle, Jackdaw, and Swan Islands.

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## CHAPTER XXVI.

### Topography of the Barony of Lower Ards.

LOWER ARDS contains a population 24,258 persons.

The Lower or Great Ards corresponds pretty nearly with the district formerly denominated South Clandeboy, which is thus described by an ancient writer :—" The Great Ards is the country which was undertaken by Mr. Smithe ; it is almost an island, a champion and fertile land, and now possessed by Sir Con McNeil Oige, who hath planted there, Neil McBrian Ferte, with sondry of his own surname. But the ancient dwellers there are the O'Gilmers, a rich and strong sept, alwaies followers of the O'Neils of Clandeboy. Their force is sixty horsemen, and three hundred footmen."

The O'Neils occupied a very extensive tract of country, extending from the " Duffryn " to " Knockfergus Bay," so called from Fergus, one of the sons of the chieftain, Erc. This territory received the appellation of the Southern Clan-Hugh-Boy, or Clandeboy, implying the sept of Yellow Hugh. The term Clandeboy is a compound of the Irish Clann, a tribe, with the Christian name of its chieftain, and buidhe (yellow), a term descriptive of his personal appearance. There is now no district so called, but the Earl of Dufferin, the present proprietor of a portion of it, has substituted the name of Clandeboye for that of Ballyleidy, as the designation of his ancestral residence.

A great part of the property referred to, passed from Con O'Neil to Hugh Montgomery, of Broadstone, in Scotland, on the condition of his effecting the delivery of that chieftain, from Carrickfergus Castle, where he was then confined. Hugh Montgomery

succeeded, with the assistance of James Hamilton, in procuring the release of O'Neil, and, both having been first knighted, were afterwards elevated to the peerage, the first as Lord Montgomery of the Ards, and the latter, as "Viscount Claneboy." The title became extinct in about half a century, and it was subsequently conferred on Viscount Limerick, but it lapsed, in 1798.

The grants made out of the escheated lands of the O'Neils, by King James, to Sir James Hamilton, were of vast extent, amounting to 244 "towns," in Upper "Claneboy" and the Great Ards, the denominations of which are set forth in the book of Survey and distribution of the county, under James I.

To these were added, fifty-two towns in Kilultagh, which, at that period, was in the County of Down, "with all the territories and manors lying within the confines of the aforesaid districts, on condition of paying £100 current money, to the king." This grant was very comprehensive, for (certain ecclesiastical property excepted) it conveyed all lands, advowsons, castles, monasteries, productions of the sea, fishings, warrens, minerals, duties, dry-rents, and all other rents, firm fees, escheats, reliefs, herriot fines, amerchiements, courts leet, view of frank pledges, hundreds, and law days, weifs, estrays, goods and chattels of felons, fugitives, murderers, and outlaws, as well as exigent deodands, male and female villeins, estover, fairs, markets, tolls, duties, and other rights." We may here observe, that a very interesting paper, on the early colonization of the Ards, may be consulted in "Hill's Macdonnells" of Antrim. It further appears, that King James made an additional grant of abbeys and lands, with their fairs, messuages, and appurtenances to Lord "Claneboy," including—

The Abbey of Holywood, valued at	-	-	£1	3	4
„ Movilla „	-	-	3	3	4
„ Black Abbey „	-	-	1	3	4
„ Bangor (thirty townlands)	-		4	0	0
„ Grey Abbey, Leigh, or de Jugo dei,			2	0	0
and Newtown Priory,	-	-	0	13	4

together with the Priory of Holywood having five townlands, and the Abbey of Comber.

Con O'Neil had been imprisoned in Carrickfergus for an attack made on some English soldiers by his servants, but, by connivance, he made his escape to Scotland, and, in order to save his life, he alienated, as we have seen, a great portion of his property. After his return from Scotland, he executed a conveyance to Sir James Hamilton and Sir Moyses Hill, of the bulk of his remaining possessions in "Castlereagh and Sleet Nesles," as it appears from an old inquisition, obligingly submitted to my examination, by Mr. Blakiston Houston, of Orangefield.

In 1606, by deed of feofment, he transferred to Sir Hugh Montgomery, all the territories which had been previously conveyed to him, by Sir James Hamilton, with four townlands in the district of Slut O'Neills, and in 1611, he granted him a lease of three additional townlands. In 1615, he had parted with seven townlands to Sir Fulke Conway, and another townland to Thomas Hibbets, so that at last, his great possessions passed gradually out of his hands, and the ruin of the representative of this powerful family soon became complete. Ultimately he was driven out of his house at Castlereagh to "Ballyhenocke," and died in poverty at Holywood, in 1620, almost within view of the baronial castle, from which all the district visible, nearly as far as the eye could reach, had once been under the sway of his family. He was buried in the little church of Ballymaghan, of which not even the ruins remain. With reference to this great family, we may here add, that the first Earl of Tyrone was succeeded by Shane or John O'Neil, and Hugh, the third and last Earl, surrendered to Mountjoy, but, finding himself still under suspicion, he fled to Rome, where he died in exile.

The monastery of St. Mary's of Grey Abbey is the largest and most interesting relic of the olden times, within the confines of the county. Its Irish appellation was Mainisterliath, pronounced Masterlea, and its conventual title was De jugo dei. It was sometimes termed Leigh, from the Irish, Liath (Grey). Being closely adjacent

to Grey Abbey House, and within the precincts of the demesne, care is taken to keep it in as good condition as possible. The monastery was an offshoot of the Abbey of Holm Cultrain, in Cumberland.\* The following extract, taken from a paper of the Bannatyne Club, in Edinburgh, and communicated to Mr. Montgomery, by Dr. Reeves, shows the affinity between Cumberland and the Irish Monastery :—

“A.D. 1222. Dompnus Adam de Holmcultrain suo cepit officio, cui suscepit Dompnus, Radulphus, abbas de Jugo dei, in Ybernia, loco cujus substitutus in Ybernia, Dom. Johannes Cellerarius de Glenlus. 1237, Obiit Doms. Gillebertus Abbas de Holmcultrain apud Cantuarium, dum rediret de Capitalo generali, cui successit Doms. Johannes abbas de Jugo dei, et de Jugo dei pastorem curam suscepit Nicholaus ejusdem domus prior.” This great abbey was founded for Cistercian monks by Afireca, the wife of John de Courcy, and daughter of Godred, King of Man, in the year 1193. It subsequently became her burial-place, and her image, in alto relievo, carved in grey freestone, is still visible, fixed in an arch in the wall, “on the Gospel side of the high altar,” being the most conspicuous object in the east window, which is of Gothic workmanship, and contains three compartments. Each of these compartments is more than six feet wide, and twenty feet high. Many parts of the building are now in ruins, but the foundations, to a considerable extent, may yet be traced.

There are various interesting monuments and inscriptions still legible, within the building, some of them commemorative of different members of the Montgomery family, and exhibiting their coat of arms, the first of which has the date of 1641.

One headed EHITATION, has the following inscription : Sir James by pirates shot, and thereof dead, by them, i’ th’ sea solemnly buried, 12th of March, 1651-2.

The frontispiece of this work, taken from a plate for which I am

\* Monasticum Hibernicum.

indebted to Messrs. John and Francis Ward, of Belfast, gives a correct impression of one view of the building. In conformity with the rules of the Cistercians, the form of the Abbey is that of a Latin cross, and it is peculiar, in having a nave without an aisle, though in other respects possessing the usual arrangements of a conventual building, comprising a sacristy, chapter-house, slype or passage, calefactory or day-room, dormitory, scriptorium, or library, kitchen refectory, and cloister, which, contrary to the usual plan, was oblong and not square.

It would be of little interest to inquire, whether the architecture was effected by monk, or lay workmen, but the materials used were undressed landstones, grey and red sandstone being employed in the chiselled work of the door and windows.\*

Some of the doorways, accurately delineated in the work of Mr. Phillips, shew much elegance of structure, especially the doorway in the west wall.

About 1626 the nave was re-roofed, and enclosed for episcopal worship.

The destruction of the abbey has been attributed both to Oliver Cromwell, and Hugh O'Neill, but most probably, it was effected by Brian MacFelim O'Neill, whilst overrunning the country with fire and sword, in revenge for the rumoured intention of Clancadoye, which he claimed as his own, being granted to Sir Thomas Smith.

The consideration given for the transfer of the abbey property, before-mentioned, was £106 5s. English, commonly called old silver money, every pound containing four ounces troy weight.

In an inquisition with reference to this property, the jury found that the "Scite," circuit, and precincts of Gray Abbey, with nineteen townlands, as well as spiritualities or temporalities, belonged to the abbey; besides the Grange, the Rectory of Tullumgrane, and the tithes of six townlands, including those of Sheeplandbeg,

\* St. Mary's Grey Abbey, containing a series of minute drawings and details, as existing in 1874. By James J. Phillips, Belfast.



as well as the tithes of all the fishes between "the Meare Enisiarge (Inishargy) and the river of Camber," and that a grant, by preferment, was made by James Hamilton, to Sir Hugh Montgomery, of a number of townlands therein named, situate in Upper Clandeboy, "with all the royalties and privileges, and a grant for one market at Gray Abbey on every Friday, and one fair on St. Luke's day, and for two days after, together with a piepoudre court, and liberty to make chases and warrens." And it further appeared, that under the award of the Earl of Abercorn, who acted as arbitrator between the two gentlemen just mentioned, "the several monasteries of Grey Abbey, Black Abbey, Newtown, Movilla, and Cumber, with their sites, tithes, royalties, lands, and appurtenances, were also transferred to Sir Hugh," in 1618, who, in fulfilment of the same award, made certain grants of woodland, to Viscount Hamilton.

At the time of the suppression of religious houses, by Henry VIII., the Abbey still retained considerable possessions, comprising seven townlands in its vicinity, and three others in the barony of Lecale, together with the tithes, which were principally granted to James, Viscount Clandeboy at an annual rent of £2.

The property came afterwards, by assignment, to Hugh Viscount Ards, and subsequently by purchase, in the early part of the eighteenth century, to William Montgomery of Grangee, in the County of Down, comprising the manor of Rosemount, the town and lands of Grey Abbey, and other adjoining townlands, as well as the tithes, fishings, tolls, and other properties, together with the right of presentation to the incumbency of Grey Abbey, and of holding courts leet, fairs, and markets.

The Mansion House of Grey Abbey, formerly called Rosemount, was originally built by Sir James Montgomery, in 1634, but it was unfortunately burnt down in 1695, after which the existing handsome edifice was constructed. The name of Rosemount has now been relinquished for that of Grey Abbey House.

Colonel David Boyd, a native of Scotland, held certain lands by assignment from "Montgomery Viscount Ards." His family



residence, which was at Castletown, or Ballycastle, was included in the demesne of Mount Stewart, and took its name from the castle, which was occupied by Thomas Smith, jun., after his arrival in Ireland.

The family of Montgomery is of the most ancient descent, having been distinguished in Normandy, and holding the title of Comte, before the time of Rollo the Dane, the first Duke of that country. Robert Montgomery, ancestor of the Earl of Eglinton, obtained for his patrimony, from his grandfather, Alexander, the first Lord, in 1452, the lands of Braidstone, in Ayrshire, thus becoming the Laird of that appellation. Sir Hugh Montgomery, the sixth Laird of Braidstane, was raised to the peerage in Ireland, in 1622, as Viscount Montgomery of the Ards. The third Viscount Montgomery was created Earl of Mount Alexander, by Privy Seal, in 1661, but both titles are long extinct.

The present representative of the family is Hugh Montgomery, who succeeded his father, William Montgomery, in 1831, and married Charlotte, a daughter of the Earl of Powis.

In looking over various records, it is curious to observe, that the name of Montgomery is spelt in forty-four different ways. The heirs of the property, in succession, have been John, in the time of James I., Hugh settled at Maghera, whose son, William, married a daughter of James M'Gill of Kullington, and their son married a daughter of Edward Hall, of Strangford. Then in a direct line followed, William, Samuel, William, Hugh, a clergyman, William, William, and Hugh Montgomery.

The parish of Grey Abbey contains a population of 2,032 inhabitants, and the town 770 in addition, making a total of 2,082 persons.

At an early date the linen trade flourished here under the fostering care of Mr. Montgomery, but it has of recent years greatly diminished.

In 1825, a very large tumulus was opened in Grey Abbey, by the late Dr. Stephenson, formerly a Presbyterian clergyman of

that place, and afterwards a physician of eminence in Belfast. The tumulus was found to contain seventeen coffins, formed by placing several flags on edge, and covering them with one large stone. In each coffin there was an urn of baked clay, containing granular earth of a dark colour.

The post-town of Grey Abbey is agreeably situated on the shore of Lough Strangford, adjoining the monastery, and the church, a small but neat building, was erected in 1778.

The rectory was impropriate in Mr. Montgomery, the Lord of the Soil, in whom the patronage was vested, and the stipend was paid partly by the Marquis of Londonderry, and partly by Mr. Auchinleck, augmented by the Boulter Fund.

Grey Abbey, the residence of Mr. Montgomery, is the principal mansion in the parish.

The possessions of the Montgomery family, at one period, consisted of two parts, one the manor of Rosemount, and the other, the manor of Florida, on the opposite side of Lough Strangford.

The site of the ancient church of St. Korcany is uncertain, but it was probably in this parish. On the southern extremity of Chapel Island, opposite to Grey Abbey, the ruins of a small church still exist, and on the eastern border of Mountstewart demesne, are the remains of another ancient church, called Templecrone. The church of St. Andrew, now Black Abbey, anciently termed the Priory of St. Andrew in the Ards, was the only alien priory in the parish, and there is a townland in the south-eastern part, still called Black Abbey, but no vestige of the building is extant, except a tombstone, which has been removed to Grey Abbey. The Black Abbey was a cell of St. Mary's of Lonley, in Normandy.

The appurtenances of Black Abbey were the "scite" and three townlands, as well as the impropriate rectories of the four churches of Ballyhalbert, Ballyincheargie, Whitechurch, and Donaghadee, with the advowsons of the vicarages of the said churches, and also two-third parts of the tithes of twenty-two townlands, which were included in the parishes of Ballyhalbert, Incheargie, and Whitechurch.

The priory of Eynes, the situation of which is now unknown, was probably in this parish, but it certainly existed in some part of the Ards, as appears from a roll in the Birmingham Tower, of the thirteenth of Henry IV., "On the first of May, 1412, a patent passed, granting the alien priory of Eynes, in the Ards, to Thomas Chenele, being seised by the king as an alien priory, *ratione guerraee inter nos, et adversarios nostros Franciæ motae*," to hold as long as it should, on that account, remain in the king's possession.

In a graveyard at the sea-side, about a mile distant from the town, there are the ruins of a small church, called Templepatrick, where, it is said, St. Patrick first landed, and near them are wells also called after his name.

The church of Haytona is now represented by Ballyhay, a townland in the west of the parish, and in an inquisition held in 1623, we find the entry, "At Ballyheyes noe church known." Haytona was a parcel of the Priory of St. John of Jerusalem.

The church of Ralfetona, long in ruins, was probably situated in what is now the townland of Ballyrolly, the advowson of which, Queen Elizabeth granted to Sir Thomas Smith. The Terrier alludes to it, as "*Ecclesia*," Ballycrollie, Rectoria, where "Nuns of Down hath a towne."

The population of the parish amounts to 3,491 persons, and the towns of Donaghadee, Carrowdore, and Millisle, respectively, to 2,226, 502, and 137, making a total of 6,518 individuals.

Donaghadee was anciently a part of the estates of the O'Neills, but, prior to 1641, it became the inheritance of the Montgomerys, subsequently passing to the family of Delacherois, who are the present proprietors. The old "Kay" of Donaghadee was built by the Lord "Mountgomery."

A court of record was formerly held here by the Seneschal of the Manor, and a court leet also.

There are numerous mills, driven both by wind and water, in the parish, principally for the manufacture of oatmeal and the

preparation of flax, and at Millisle, there are also extensive steam flour mills, belonging to the Messrs. Carmichael.

As this is the head of the coastguard district, the inspecting commander resides here.

The town of Donaghadee has two Presbyterian meeting-houses, and a Roman Catholic and Wesleyan Methodist chapel.

The streets are wide, and contain many well-built houses.

Close to the town of Donaghadee there is a rath seventy feet high, in which a castellated building, presenting the handsome appearance of a tower and fortress, in miniature, has been erected, and occupied as a powder magazine.

The view from the Donaghadee rath is varied and extensive, and thus referred to in an original poem, obligingly forwarded to me by Mr. John Coates, of Belfast:—

“Yonder stretches Scotia’s outline,  
Here the coast of Down is seen.  
Kindred homes of kindred people,  
With the Copeland isles between.”

The church of Dofnacht, now the parish of Donaghadee, anciently constituted a part of the possessions of the monks of Black Abbey, and the name has been variously written, Donaghdyth and Donaghdee. Donovan deduces the name from the words Domhnac, a dith, the church of destruction.

The present church is situated a short distance from the town.

Formerly the patron was the Marquis of Downshire, but more recently, it was in the patronage of the Primate, and the rectory was appropriate to the See of Armagh.

At its institution the church was endowed with all the alterages, and one-third of the tithes of corn and hay, together with one-half of a townland as a glebe. The church, a large cruciform structure, was originally built in 1641, and the present edifice in 1817. A lofty tower was erected, principally at the expense of the late Captain Daniel Delacherois, in 1833. The church was enlarged in 1844, and again in 1867, by the addition of a north aisle, at a cost of £2,800.

The port of Donaghadee has been greatly improved, and there is now a depth of ten feet at low water during spring tides, in the improved portion of the harbour, which extends along the S. pier. From the S. E. pierhead a light is shown, red to seaward, and bright, towards the harbour. About a mile north of Donaghadee is Foreland Point, from which extends a ledge of rocks to the eastward, with an iron perch on it. Deputy Rock, on which is a red buoy, lies half way between Donaghadee and Copeland, and has about eight feet water at low tide. The proper course through the sound is between the Foreland and the East Deputy buoys.

Donaghadee is the nearest port in Ireland to Scotland, being only twenty-one miles from Port Patrick, or Port Logan, the passage between the two kingdoms, being practicable by good steamers in an hour and a-half, or less. Donaghadee was long the packet-station, for the transit of the mails between this country and Great Britain, and, from the shortness of the sea-passage, it should still be so, if the public interests were alone consulted.

There are several hotels, and baths of every description, which attract many visitors to enjoy the pure sea air and the benefit of sea-bathing, and an excellent market, holden on Wednesday.

There was formerly a considerable trade at Donaghadee, and the port had a custom-house and resident collector but it is now merely a creek of Belfast, with a harbourmaster, and one custom-house officer. The amount of revenue, in the time of Harris, was £1,400. A principal branch of traffic was the export of horses, "many of them stolen," as that writer naively remarks. One shilling duty was paid on the shipment of each animal, and as many as possible were stealthily landed, in various remote creeks in Scotland, in order to evade the high duty payable in that kingdom. Other exports were black cattle, sheep, wool, woollen manufactured goods, butter, oats, and oatmeal, for which coal, and cured fish were received in return.

The principal mansions in the parish of Donaghadee are the Manor House, Mr. Daniel Delacherois, Ballywilliam House, the late Mr. Samuel Delacherois, Carrowdore Castle, Mr. Samuel Dela-



cherois Crommelin, Woburn, Mr. George Dunbar, Herdstown House, Mr. McMinn, Millisle, Mr. Carmichael, and the Vicarage, the Rev. Mr. Hill.

The name of Delacherois is derived from the small "seigneurie" of Cheroy, or Chery, near Sens, in the province of Champagne, where, for many centuries, the family had occupied the rank of noble "proprietaires," and were allied with some of the first houses in the country, including those of Montmorenci, St. Reiny, Choiseul, and others.

In the seventeenth century, Samuel Delacherois, a captain in the French army, who had married an heiress in Languedoc, took up his residence there, and of his three sons, Daniel, Nicholas, and Bourjonval, the two latter entered the army, and served under Conde, the first attaining the rank of captain, and the second that of lieutenant, when the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes compelled them to fly to Holland, whither they were followed by their brother, Daniel. The Prince of Orange, afterwards William III., gave them commissions in the same rank they had held in France, and Nicholas married Marie, the sister of Louis Crommelin, who afterwards settled at Lisburn, and Nicholas, the brother of the latter married Madeline, the cousin of Marie, just mentioned. The brothers followed King William to England, and distinguished themselves at the Battle of the Boyne. Soon after, however, Bourjonval was killed in an attack made by the adherents of King James, near Dungannon, but in 1693, Daniel, having been appointed Governor of Pondicherry, realised a large fortune. He had one daughter first, married to an English gentleman of the name of Grueber, and after his death, to the Hon. Thomas Montgomery, afterwards the fifth, and last Earl of Mount Alexander, who, dying childless, left his widow sole heiress of his estates in the County of Down, where her memory is still held in affectionate remembrance. Her cousin, Madeline de la Cherois, married Daniel Crommelin, a nephew of her mother, and left three sons, between the eldest of whom and her cousin, Samuel de la Cherois, Lady Mount Alexander left her estates in equal shares. Nicholas Crommelin



dying unmarried, and neither of his brothers having male heirs, he left his portion to the youngest son of Samuel de la Cherois, who then assumed the name of Crommelin.

Of the three brothers De la Cherois, Nicholas alone left a son, and he may therefore be considered as the head of the Irish branch of the family. This gentleman continued in the army, and distinguishing himself under the Duke of Marlborough, he had attained the rank of lieutenant-colonel, when he unfortunately lost his life about the year 1706, by taking poison, carelessly sent by his apothecary in mistake. His son, Samuel de la Cherois, was followed in succession by Daniel de la Cherois, whose second son, Samuel Louis, was the father of Mr. Daniel de la Cherois, of the Manor House, Donaghadee, the present representative of the family, who is married to Ellen, daughter of Mr. George Leslie, late of Donaghadee.

The family of Leslie is of Scotch descent, and Colonel Leslie one of its members, is resident in Donaghadee at the present time.

The family of Crommelin, originally from the Low Countries, were established at Armandcourt, in Picardy, where they had considerable property for more than a century, before the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, but in consequence of the persecutions of Alva, the family removed to France, and Jean, son of Armand Crommelin, settled at St. Quentin, and by marriage with Marie, daughter of Jaques de Semery, he became Seigneur de Camus, and had three sons, Pierre, Jean, and Adrien. Two members of the family received patents, or letters of nobility, from Louis XIV., and others became Seigneurs de Mezieres, Senandcourt, Armandcourt, and De Bersy. Pierre Crommelin married Marie Desormeaux de Cambray, and his son, Samuel, married Madeleine de St. Quentin. At the "Revocation" he took refuge at Haarlem, and his daughter, Anne, married her cousin, Louis Crommelin.

Louis Crommelin, the son of Jean, born at St. Quentin, in 1625, married Marie Mettayer, and at the "Revocation" he also fled with his family to Holland. His son, Louis, with others of his

family, was induced by William III. to go over to Ireland with a view to the improvement of the linen trade. Louis, in 1680, married his cousin, Anne, daughter of Samuel Crommelin, and his son, Louis, died unmarried. His daughter, Anne, married Isaac Cousin de Meaux, and afterwards Daniel de la Cherois, and their only daughter, Marie Angelique Madeline, married the last Earl of Mount Alexander, and left her property between her cousins, Samuel de la Cherois, and Nicholas Crommelin. Samuel de la Cherois, the son of Anne, abovementioned, married Mademoiselle Corniere, and their third son, also called Samuel de la Cherois, assumed, in compliance with the will of his cousin, Nicholas Crommelin, of Lisburn, the additional name of Crommelin. His eldest son, Nicholas de la Cherois Crommelin, married Elizabeth, a daughter of Lord Ventry, and his eldest son, Mr. Samuel Arthur Hill Crommelin, of Carrowdore Castle, is the present representative of the family.

Woburn is the residence of Mr. Dunbar, whose family is of Scotch extraction.

The present Mr. Dunbar was married to a niece of the late Primate, Lord George Beresford.

The family of MacMinn is also of Scotch lineage, their ancestors having settled in Donaghadee in the time of James I.

The family of Carmichael also originally came from Scotland.

Ballyvester House is the residence of the Catherwood family. The ancestor of Mr. Catherwood was brought over from Scotland by Sir Hugh Montgomery,\* and the original property of Mr. Catherwood, at Ballyvester, remains in the family to this day.

The parishes of Newtownards and Bangor, are partly in this Barony, and partly in the Barony of Lower Castlereagh, under which head they are described.

\* Montgomery MSS. p. 311.

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### Topography of the Barony of Kinelarty.

THE Barony of Kinelarty, anciently Kinelfagarty, derives its name from Cenel Fagartaig, Fagartach having been an ancient chief, whose tribe peopled the district, or from Cenel Artane, an ancient proprietor of the district of the tribe of Ires, and the common ancestor of the Magennises and Macartanes, in the district of Dufferin, formerly included in Kinelarty, with a part of Lower Iveagh for, as we are told by an old writer, in 1598, "Kinalewrtie is woodland and boggy, and lieth between Kilwaren and Lecahull."

This sept of the Macartanes, or the Clannarury, were descendants of Rudraig Mor, belonging to that division of the tribe called the Red Branch, who were not settled in Monaghan, as erroneously stated by Mageoghegan, in his map of the "Dynastie of Ulster," but in Down, according to the Bard of Hymaine, John More O'Dugan, who, in a poetical account of the northern half of Ireland, describes the territory inhabited by this warlike people, as situated in Cuid na Craoibe Ruaidhe, implying the patrimony of the Clanna Rury of Ulidia.

The chief of this great clan, Acholy M'Artane, submitted to Queen Elizabeth, and a part of some interest in the territory of Lecale was given to Sir Nicholas Malby one of her principal officers.

This grant, however, he was not allowed to enjoy peaceably, as appears from the following passage in an ancient writer:—"In times past, some interest therein (Lechahull), was given to Sir N. Malbie, but never by him quietly enjoyed. Now, the Capten thereof

is called Acholie M'Cartane, and doth yield only to the Queene. He is able to make about sixty footmen, but no horsemen."

The population of Kinelarty amounts to 13,944 persons.

In Petty's History of the Down Survey, edited by General Larcom, the Barony of Kinalarty was said to contain over 6,842 acres of land profitable, and more than 1,639 acres of land unprofitable, together with 1,081 acres of glebe land, making a total of about 9,564 acres, from which it is obvious, that the boundaries of the barony must have then very materially differed from those of the present time, as they now include more than 40,000 acres.

Petty's calculation was made in the latter half of the seventeenth century, after his arrival in Ireland as physician to the army, in 1652, and his great work of the Down Survey, occupied him for many succeeding years. We may here explain, that the appellation of Down Survey has no special reference to the County of Down,



DUNDRUM CASTLE.

of which the baronies of Kinelarty and Lower "Evagh," had been previously surveyed, but it was so called from the fact that the

topographical details, unlike preceding surveys, were laid down in a series of maps, which are of remarkable accuracy, reference being had to the period and circumstance of their construction.

In 1605, Phelim M'Artane, then chief of the clan, with Donald Oge M'Artane, of Killenarten, granted, to hold for ever, in consideration of a certain sum of money, to Edmund Lord Cromwell, the "castle of Dondrome, with the third part of all his country called Killinartie, in Down County, or Waterturye, or Uachtairtire," a territory, as laid down in Mercator's map, abutting on the inner bay of Dundrum, and now forming the Lecale portion of the parish or Kilmegan. In the same year that the grant was made, Lord Cromwell and Phelim made a surrender of the territory, on a condition of a re-conveyance being made to them in moieties, and a grant in fee farm was made to each, to be held by knights fee, at £2 annual rent. The annexed print gives a very correct view of "the castle of Dondrome," as now existing, sketched and obligingly forwarded to me by Miss Tait, of Belfast, through the Rev. Adam Cuppage, of Dundrum.

The Parish of Loughinisland, Loch an Oilean, *i. e.*, the Lough of the Island, has a population of 3,650 persons, which, added to 272 residents, in the town of Clough, and 161 in Seaforde, makes up a total of 3,498 inhabitants.

There is a dispensary in Seaforde, transferred thither from Clough, under the Medical Charities' Act.

At Draper Hill, the late Mr. Cromie established a linen factory in 1815, in which 42,000 webs of millspun yarn were wrought annually, and although the works have passed into other hands, they are still in operation.

The ruins of the residence of Lady Ardglass, which were in this parish, no longer exist.

The principal mansions in Loughinisland, are Ardilea, the Highlands, and Seaforde.

Ardilea was, until a recent period, the residence of the Rev. William Annesley. The ancient name of the mansion was Belleville, described by Harris "as near Dundrum Strand, where the



Drumca river embouches." About the year 4770 it was occupied by Mr. Hugh O'Neill, the last representative of the senior branch of the Clandeboys, and afterward in succession by Captain Hoey, and Mr. Edward S. Ruthven. It then came into possession of the Rev. William Annesley, who erected a new mansion on the higher ground, and changed the name to that of the townland, Dunardalea, *i. e.*, the high path over the sea, but it is now known by the appellation of Ardilea. The old mansion of Belleville is still undisturbed. After the death of Mr. Annesley, Ardilea was occupied by Mr. David S. Ker, and then by Mr. Hastings, in the possession of whose family it still remains.

The Highlands, near the village of Seaforde is the residence of Mr. Gordon, a gentleman whose family is of Scotch extraction.

Seaforde House is a handsome structure in the Grecian style, approached by a lofty self-opening gateway.

It was erected in 1818, to replace the mansion which was destroyed by fire in 1816. It stands in an extensive and well-planted demesne, consisting of more than 1,000 acres. In the great storm of January the 6th, 1839, no fewer than sixty thousand trees were blown down here and, on the same night, the neighbouring chapel of Drumaroad, was also levelled with the ground, by the violence of the hurricane.

The Forde family was originally of Welsh extraction, but the Down branch is more immediately descended from Nicholas Forde, of Coolgraney, in the County of Wexford, who married Catherine White, and died in 1695, being succeeded in the estates by his second son, Mathew.

Mathew Forde, of Coolgraney, who was member for the County of Wexford, married Margaret, sister of Isabella Hamilton, Comtesse de Grammont, youngest daughter of Sir George Hamilton, the fourth son of James, Earl of Abercromby, and Mary Butler, daughter of Lord Thurles, and sister of the first Duke of Ormond.

Mr. Forde was Clerk of the Crown in the reign of Charles I., from whom he received a patent, confirming the title to the Down



estate, which he had procured in 1607, by grant from Thomas Cromwell, and this property is still in possession of the family.

In 1659, Nicholas Forde succeeded his father, and married the daughter of Sir Adam Loftus, by whom he had one son, Matthew, the second of that name, who was member of Parliament for Downpatrick, and died in 1695. He was succeeded by the third Matthew, who removed from his estates in Wexford, and built the mansion house and village of Seaforde, at Neaghan, where the family have ever since continued to reside. This gentleman is referred to in Delany's remarks on the Life of Swift, as an associate of the latter, and as a man of family and fortune, a fine gentleman, and the best lay scholar of his time and nation. He died in 1728, and was followed by Matthew, who was member of Parliament for Bangor, and after his death.

In 1780, he was succeeded by Matthew, the fifth of that name, and after the death of the latter, in 1796, the inheritance descended to the sixth Matthew, who rebuilt the mansion at Seaforde.

He married Catherine, eldest daughter of the Right Hon. William Brownlow, Member of Parliament for Armagh, and dying in 1812, he was succeeded by Matthew, the seventh proprietor of that name, and died in 1839.

The property then devolved on the Rev. William Brownlow Forde, who married Theodosia, daughter of Thomas Douglas, of Gracehall, in this county. The Rev. Mr. Forde died in 1856, and his eldest son, Matthew Thomas Forde, in 1847.

The property consequently descended to the second son, Lieutenant-Colonel William Brownlow Forde, the present proprietor, who sat for many years as member of Parliament for the County of Down.\*

In the church of Seaforde there is a handsome monument erected to the memory of the late Colonel Forde. The present proprietor is the predial representative of the Macartanes,

\* MS. of the late Dr Drew, obligingly submitted, for my information by Miss Drew.

one of his ancestors having married a female of that great sept, whose castle stood near the village of Annadorn. It was built on an eminence, now called Castle-hill, and the burying place of the family is supposed to have been in the churchyard, which is situated on an island in the adjacent lake. The old church stood on this island until the site was changed for Seaforde, which was anciently called Neaghan, but appropriately altered to Seaforde, from the Irish Saidhe, (See) a seat.

A handsome memorial window has been erected in Seaforde Church, to the memory of Major Charles Aitken Forde, of the South Down Militia, the brother of the present lord of the soil, who died in 1872, at the age of forty-four years, much and generally regretted.

Seaforde is about a mile from Clough. It consists of one long street, and another running at right angles. There are six almshouses for six aged widows in the village, erected by Colonel Forde, 1828, in fulfilment of a request made by Mrs. Forde, and endowed in by him with an annuity of £60 per annum.

Clough, as described by Harris, "is a well laid out village, wherein is a good mansion house of Francis Annesley, Esquire, near which is a Danish rath, surrounded by a broad deep fosse, and on the top a plain strong castle of stone, of which a part of a winding staircase still remains." This structure was most probably erected for the purpose of defence, as it is too small to have been the residence of any family of consideration. The outworks were very extensive, and not being commanded by any higher ground in the vicinity, it was well calculated for resisting all means of aggression known in those days.

Clough was originally the possession of the Macartanes, but, in 1612, it was granted by James I. with the surrounding lands, to Thomas Fitzmaurice, and in 1615, it came by purchase into the hands of Sir Francis Annesley, Baron of Mountnorris, all whose lands in the County of Down were, by patent, constituted the manor of "Cloughmaghericat".

In the time of Harris the ruins "of a good English house,"

built by Francis, Viscount Mountnorris, still remained, and the property descended to one of his younger sons, passing, prior to 1641, into the possession of Mr. Matthew Forde, as previously narrated.

In the last century Clough, as described by Mr. J. W. Hannah,\* was more flourishing than at present, and a place of considerable trade, having many excellent shops and a good inn, where the judges of assize, who then travelled on horseback, usually rested for the night, on their way to Downpatrick.

Smuggling was very common, being encouraged by the contiguity of the Bay of Dundrum, at that time, next to the back shore of the Ards, the chief receptacle for the landing of contraband goods. The town of Clough derives its name from clough, a stone, or stone castle. It was the birth-place of Hugh Maffet, a distinguished lawyer, of the last century, who was the author of a translation of Horace, and of several lay sermons, very popular in their day.

About forty years ago, one of the best academical institutions in the county flourished at Clough, under the presidency of the Rev. Skeffington Thompson, at that time Curate of Loughinisland.†

Loughinisland, in some old visitation books, is spelled Lachlan's Island. It constitutes the corps of the precentorship of Down, and the patronage was formerly in the Bishop of the diocese.

The modern church is situated at Seaforde. It is a handsome edifice, in the Grecian style, with an octagonal spire of wood, covered with copper. It was built in 1720, but it has recently undergone substantial repairs.

The parish of Loughinisland was made up of a number of smaller denominations, termed respectively Kenlys, or Kinglesse, Styoun, Drumcath, or Drumcha, Rathcat, Larkes, and Ballintampany. The name of Kinles is obsolete, and Rathcath is now the townland of Clough.

\* *Down Recorder*.

† J. W. H. in *Downpatrick Recorder*.

There is an old graveyard in this parish, and another called Killylone, situated in the townland of Magheralone, which, with three other townlands, were transferred to the parish of Kilmore, when Loughinisland and Drumcath were consolidated.

The Chapel of Lerkes was in the barony of Kinelarty, and, it is believed, in the parish of Loughinisland, but the name is now unknown. In 1334, Thomas le Taillour held one carucate of land in "Le Lerkes," under William de Burgo.

The Church of Kylbulke, although its exact situation is now unknown, was probably in the same parish.

The Chapel of Kenlis was presumably one of the eight denominations forming the corps of the precentorship, which now pass under the generic appellation of Loughinisland.

The Church of Kilmeleyt may possibly have been in this parish, or perhaps in Killyleagh.

The Church of Drumcath, *i. e.* the Battle Ridge, is now represented by Drumcaw townland, in which the walls of the old church are still standing, about one mile west from Seaforde.

In 1718, by act of privy council, the parish of "Drumca" was annexed to Loughin Island. When Drumcaw was an independent parish, it contained nine townlands, and was, with the Chapel of Clough, appropriate to the Abbey of St. Patrick's, in Downpatrick.

On the foundation of the new chapter of Down, in 1609, it was annexed to the precentorship. The Terrier, compiled in 1615, returned the Church of Drumcha, as appropriate to St. John's, of Down, and the Chapel of Recat, to the Irish Monastery, in the same town, but how it was disappropriated from St. Patrick's it does not appear. In 1622, Bishop Echlin returned both churches as in ruins, and as held, in common with several other chapels, by the incumbents.

The Chapel of Clough is supposed to have been contiguous to the old castle, but no traces of it now remain.

The ruins on Loughinisland consist of three churches, one called the old Parish Church, a second, disused when the former was built, and the third, called Macartane's Chapel, on the door of which are the letters P. M. C. (Phelim McArtane), with the date 1636.

The ancient church of Ardoganalle, or Ardnagoole, now Magheradroll parish, was also called Meacarne de Odongulla Machaire Edargawal, Machairge-dargawall, Machury edargawall, Magheraddrool, and Maccheredruall. The modern church is in the town of Ballinahinch, and the old church and graveyard, about a mile to the south-east. About four miles, in an opposite direction, there is another graveyard, in the townland of Glassdrumman.

The rectory of Magheradroll was appropriate to the bishop, in whose gift the vicarage was vested.

In the ancient cemetery near the town, several of the Magennises of Kilwarlin lie buried. The church, which was built in 1830, cost £850. It is a neat edifice, with a tower and spire. The glebe-house was built in 1817, and the glebe consists of forty-two acres, with some gardens, let to labourers at £5 per annum, each.

The name of Magheradroll is properly deduced from Machaire drochaib, signifying gravelly plain.

There are two large bleach-greens in this parish, but they are not now occupied.

The late Samuel Macdowell Johnston, who resided near Ballinahinch, bequeathed one-third of the profits of a literary work, entitled "The Medley," amounting to something more than £4 per annum, to be annually distributed at Christmas, amongst the poor.

The hills are numerous in this parish, and generally surmounted with raths, as I am informed by Dr. Dickson, of Ballinahinch, to whom I feel much indebted for various particulars of information.

The principal mansion is Montalto, a residence of Mr. David Stewart Ker, the present representative of the family, who married the Hon. Anna Dorothea Blackwood, a daughter of



Hans, third Lord Dufferin, and their eldest son, Alfred, late a captain in the 12th Lancers, is now resident at Montalto.

The Kers are of Scotch lineage, David Ker having come from Montfaude, and settled at Ballymena, in Antrim, and from him the descent is in a direct line. Mr. David Ker, the father of the present proprietor, was son of Mr. David Ker, of Portavo, who purchased the Montalto property from Lord Moira. The estate at Downpatrick was bought from Lord de Clifford, and has again recently passed by sale to Mr. Mulholland, of Ballywalter Park. Mr. Ker at one time represented the county in Parliament, and both he and his brother were, on different occasions, members for the borough of Downpatrick. The mother of Mr. Ker was Lady Selina Sarah Stewart, daughter of the first Marquis of Londonderry.

Ballinahinch is a good town, consisting of a square and several streets, with many well-built houses, numerous substantial improvements having been effected by the present proprietor. It was founded by Sir George Rawdon, after the insurrection of 1641, under a patent of Charles II.

The population, in 1861, was 1066. In 1841 it only amounted to 911, and in 1871 to 1225.

The buildings of a public nature are, the parish church, three Presbyterian churches, and a Methodist and Roman Catholic church.

There is a commodious market-house and spacious enclosures, for the several markets, which are extremely well attended, but a large court-house in the square, built by Lord Moira in 1795, is now in a dilapidated state.

Ballinahinch signifies in Irish the "Town of the Island."

Dr. James Thompson, a distinguished mathematician, was born in the vicinity of Ballinahinch, and, after filling other important situations, was ultimately elected to the chair of mathematics in Glasgow University, and his son, William Thompson, a fellow of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, and Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Glasgow, who received the honour of



knighthood for his services in furthering the success of the Atlantic Cable, is also a native of the County of Down.

In the unfortunate insurrection of 1798, the rebels were driven from the Windmill hill, adjacent to the town, by General Nugent, with a force of about 1500 men, consisting of the Monaghan Militia, part of the 22nd Dragoons, the Hillsborough Yeomanry cavalry, and some infantry and other Yeomanry corps, after having been joined by a reinforcement, under Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart. The insurgents were subsequently defeated on the following day, after a fierce resistance, in which the Monaghan Militia was driven back on the Hillsborough cavalry, causing them to retire in confusion, but they subsequently rallied, and the Argyle Fencibles joining in the attack, the rebels finally fled in complete disorder. They afterwards retired to Slieve Croob, and then dispersed, thus terminating the rebellion in this quarter. Their unfortunate leader, Henry Munro, having been captured, was executed in the town of Lisburn, a few days afterwards.

The parish of Magherahamlet contains a population of 1954 persons.

At Dunmore there is an extensive walled deer-park, the property of Colonel Forde. The name Magherahamlet signifies the plain of the Tamlaght or Hamlet, taimleach implying a place where those dying of a plague are interred.

The patronage was formerly in the Rector of Dromara, the perpetual curacy of Magherahamlet having been a part of that parish.

A portion of Dromara, marked in the Down Survey as Magherehowlett, was, in the fifteenth century, included in the denomination "Drumerach cum capellis;" but Magherahamlet is now an independent parish. The ruins of the old church, called Templemoyle, and sometimes Kilwilke, with the ancient churchyard, are in the townland of Dunmore.

The residence of the incumbent is the principal mansion in the parish.

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## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### Topography of the Barony of Dufferin.

THIS Barony, anciently termed Dubthrain, implying the black third, or district, was inhabited by an ancient sept of the Macartanes, whose lands comprehended the southern parts of Castlereagh, including a part of the woody district of the Cinel Artaigh, the other portion being occupied by a branch of the sept of M'Quillen, whose creagh, in this vicinity, was attacked by the O'Neills in 1433. The name of Dufferin occurs as early as the year 1478, in a charter of de Courcy, and probably it may have been here, rather than in the woods of Kilnasaggart, that the chieftains mentioned by Barbour, the Scotch poet, were seized by Edward Bruce during his invasion of Ireland.\* The Macartanes of Kinelarty derived their descent, in common with the Magenises, from Conall, son of Coalbhaig, alleged to have been the 132nd king of Ireland in the fourth century.

Harris describes the barony of "Dufferin" as having been, in former times, much encumbered with woods, and possessed, after the first English invasion, by the family of Mandeville, and in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by the Whites, who had not sufficient power to maintain their rights; and, as he goes on to say, "the county was usurped and inhabited by a bastard sort of Scots, who were able to make eighty bowmen and twenty shot, by whose services they mostly preyed upon their neighbours, and only gave to the Whites a small revenue at their own pleasure."

\* Ulst. Jr. Arch., vol. vi., p. 163.

The family of Whyte (Le Blanc) had, at an early date, extensive possessions in this barony, which ultimately passed into the hands of Lord Clandeboye, as appears from an inquisition taken in 1628, in which it was found that Rowland White, a son of Sir Patrick White, of Flemingston, in the County of Meath, was seized in fee, of the Manor and Castle of Perrestady, *alias* Benechaddy, and Killyleagh, with all manors, towns, villages, royalties, and hereditaments, in the territory called the "Duffryn," including above fifty townlands and hamlets, together with the Castle of Killyleagh, and various islands in Lough Conn, as well as the advowson to certain rectories. John, the successor of Sir Rowland White, levied a fine, in the thirty-fifth year of Queen Elizabeth, of all the premises to Walter Dalton, who, by the same fine, re-conveyed them to Sir John White and his heirs. His trustees by feofment, dated in the eighth year of King James I., passed to the Lord "Claneboy" all the premises of which he had become possessed, and another fine was levied by Nicholas White, son and heir of the said John, confirming the property to the Lord "Claneboy" and his heirs for ever. Certain other lands in Upper Clandeboye, including the manor of Bdryn and Island Mahie, subsequently passed by seizin and delivery from the Bishop of Down to Sir Henry Pyet, who leased them to Hugh Culmore and Anthony Pyers, from whom they, also, passed to Lord "Claneboy," thus augmenting largely his already enormous estates.

Killyleagh Castle, the residence of Mrs. Hamilton, is a large and imposing pile of building, closely adjoining the town. It is generally known, that John de Courcy built a number of square keeps, or what have been called Norman towers, all round this district as a protection to the English rule, against the Macartanes and other enemies, and one of the chief of these buildings, called Dufferin, was erected in the vicinity of Killyleagh.

In 1356, Edward III. appointed John de Mandeville warder of this castle, which subsequently fell into the hands of the "O'Nealls," who maintained possession of it, until 1561, when the surrounding territory was granted to Hugo White, who erected a

castle at Killyleagh, into which he removed his Warden, from Castle Dufferin.

Shane O'Nial besieged Killyleagh Castle in 1567, but having met with powerful resistance, he set fire to the town and retired from the siege. A league was, however, subsequently made between the O'Nial's and Macartanes, when they attacked the castle with their united forces, dispossessed the family of White, and usurped the dominion of the country.

On the suppression of Tyrone's rebellion in the 16th century, the possessions of the Macartanes, Killyleagh included, were confiscated, and the manor and district were afterwards granted by James I., to Sir James Hamilton, who restored and considerably enlarged the Castle, which, subsequently to his elevation to the peerage, as Lord Clondeboy, he made his principal place of residence.

In Queen Elizabeth's time, Dufferin was called the White's country, from the extensive possessions of that family, in the district, which in an inquisition dated in 1605 are referred to, as including, in addition to other properties, "the castle of Ballycaslan, Killaleigh, Rindoffrin, alias Meylertown, Rathgorman, and Casclanegays, together with the advowsons of the Churches of Killinchene, Maghery, Renechaddy, Killaureys, and Killaleagh."

In 1648 the Castle of Killyleagh was taken by General Monk, on behalf of the Parliament and partly demolished. It was, however, substantially repaired in 1666, and a few years ago it was judiciously and tastefully renovated, under the directions of Sir Charles Lanyon, the eminent architect.

The following inscription is not devoid of interest :—*Hoc castellum conditum circiter A. D., MCC. In majus auctum ab Henrico comite Clanbrassiliens. A. D., MDCLXVI. Reficiendum curavit Archibaldus Hamilton Rowan. A.D., MDCCCL.*

Here was born the first Archibald Hamilton Rowan, whose public history is generally known.

The Parish of Killyleagh, Coille liath, or Greywood, contains a population of 5,910 persons, including 1,772 residents in the town

of Killyleagh, and 994 in Tullyveery, together with the inhabitants on the adjacent islands in Lough Strangford.

The principal mansions in the neighbourhood of Killyleagh are Delamont, Ardigon House, Ringdufferin, Ballytrim House, Anneville, Ballywillin, and Shrigley.

The family of Major Baillie, of Ringdufferin, is of old standing in the County, Ringdufferin being referred to by Harris as the residence of Major Baillie, more than a century ago.

Mr. Lowry, of Ballytrim House, is of Scotch lineage.

Delamont is a residence of Mr. R. F. Gordon, of Florida manor, standing on a lofty hill, and commanding extensive prospects over the Lough of Strangford.

Ardigon is the mansion of Mr. Robert Heron, who has long occupied a prominent position in the County, and is well known for the ability and perseverance with which he has fulfilled his various public duties.

The family of Heron is of Scotch extraction, from the Shire of Kircudbright, where the Lords of the Barony of Heron, having emigrated from Northumberland, settled in the beginning of the fifteenth century.

The Killyleagh branch of the Hamiltons has a common descent with James Hamilton, the first Lord Clandeboye.

Gawen Hamilton, third son of the Rev. Hans Hamilton, a clergyman at Dunlop, in Ayreshire, settled in Killyleagh, and had a son of the same name, who married Jane, only child of William Rowan, Esq., and was succeeded by his son, Archibald Hamilton Rowan. This gentleman had a son called James William, who married a daughter of Sir Geo. Cockburn, and their issue, Archibald Hamilton Rowan, became the successor of his grandfather, in 1841. He married a daughter of the Rev. George Caldwell, a grand-daughter of Sir William Addy, and their eldest son, Gawen William Rowan Hamilton, is the present proprietor. Their eldest daughter, Harriette Georgina, is married to the Earl of Dufferin.

This branch of the house of Hamilton is of the same descent



as the Earls of Clanbrassil and Viscounts Limerick, who derived from Thomas Hamilton, of Raplock.

Gawen William Rowan Hamilton, eldest son of Archibald Hamilton Rowan, was born in Paris, in 1783. He entered the navy, and served under Lord Nelson and Collingwood, and was frequently engaged with the enemy. He was also employed at the capture of Rosetta, where he was severely wounded, and served in various detached actions with great bravery, taking part in the attack on Baltimore, Rapahannock, and Leghorn. He was afterwards employed in the Levant, where his name, when the author of this work, served in the Mediterranean, was still remembered with gratitude and respect as the "Friend of the Greeks." Captain Hamilton was present at the battle of Navarino, and at Caraboosa with Sir Thomas Staines, in his attack on that very strong fortress of the Greek pirates, in which his frigate, the *Cambrian*, was accidentally sunk. His last services were in command of the *Druid* frigate, on the South American station, and he died soon afterwards at Rath-coffey, the seat of his father, in the County of Kildare.

The town of Killyleagh, consisting of two long and nearly parallel streets, intersected by one still longer, with many good houses, stands at the head of a creek, on the west shore of Strangford Lough.

The Earl of Dufferin, and Mr. Gawen Hamilton, are the joint proprietors of the town.

There is a small harbour, well sheltered, and accessible to vessels not drawing more than ten feet of water.

The quay and basin, which were completed in 1833, were constructed at an expense of more than £1000, defrayed solely by the Earl of Dufferin.

The trade is limited, the chief exports being wheat, barley, oats, butter, and kelp; and the principal imports are coal, iron, slates, and general merchandise.

There are two extensive linen yarn mills in the town, containing 40,000 spindles, and employing 1500 persons.



The public buildings in Killyleagh are an Episcopal and a Presbyterian Church, a Methodist and Roman Catholic Chapel, and National Schools, together with a Police-barrack, Court-house, and Dispensary.

There was formerly a horse-barrack here, and at one time the town was the head-quarters of the North Down Rifles, now stationed at Newtownards.

The patronage of this parish was vested in Trinity College, prior to the disestablishment.

The parish church is a handsome cruciform structure, with a tower and well-proportioned spire, erected by Lord Dufferin in 1825. The church was originally built in 1640, and rebuilt in 1812.

The remains of an ancient church called Killowen, consisting of the east gable, in which there are two lanceolated windows, may still be seen to the north-eastward of the town, near the castle.

In the parish church there are some handsome monuments, one to the memory of Captain Robert Blackwood, who was killed at Waterloo, in 1815, another in memory of the Rev. Peter Carleton, a former rector, and a third in commemoration of the Rev. James Clewlow.

In the townland of Cluntagh, in the south-west of the parish, there was formerly a religious edifice, and at the dissolution, the rectory was appropriate to the Abbey of Saul.

Killyleagh was incorporated by James I., the corporation consisting of a provost, and twelve free burgesses, an indefinite number of freemen, and two town clerks, with subordinate officers. The free burgesses returned two members to Parliament, until disfranchised at the Union, when a compensation of £15,000 was awarded to Sir James Stevenson Blackwood, afterwards Lord Dufferin. There was formerly a Court of Record. The Seneschal of the Manor Court was appointed by Mr. Hamilton.

The market is held on Fridays.

Sir Hans Sloane, the great naturalist, was a native of Killyleagh,

and Drs. Hincks and Cooke, the first distinguished as a profound scholar, and the latter as an eminent Presbyterian divine, officiated in their respective churches here, for many years.

Henry Bailie, a son of a gentlemen of the same name, was born in Killyleagh, about 1752. He entered the Russian service and attained the rank of rear-admiral, after having served on many occasions with great credit. He died at Sebastopol, in 1826.

In the vicinity of the town is situated the very large spinning mill of Mr. John Martin, of Shrigley, a village inhabited by the artisans employed by him, the population amounting to about 1000 persons.

A male, female, and infant schools, have been attached to the mill by Mr. Martin, through his meritorious anxiety for the welfare of his work-people.

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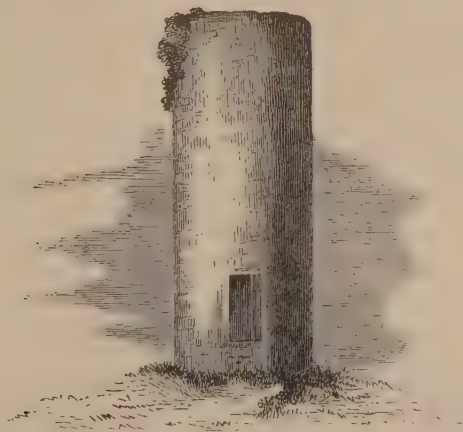
## CHAPTER XXIX.

### The Topography of the Barony of Upper Castlereagh.

THIS Barony contains a population of 24,086. Upper and lower Castlereagh united, correspond to the ancient territory, of south Clandeboy, and small portions of Dufferin and Lower Ards.

The Church of "Drumboo," now the Parish of Drumbo, or Druimbo, as written by the Four Masters, signifies the long hill of the Cow, which was translated into Collum Bovis, a name by which the ancient church was known.

The population of the parish amounts to 1980 persons, including 61 residents in the village of Milltown, and 62 in Purdy's Burn.



ROUND TOWER OF DRUMBO.

The principal houses are Purdy's Burn House, Edenderry House, Belvidere Cottage, Rokeby, and New Grove.

Harris also refers to Drum House, as being inhabited by Mr. Hamilton Maxwell, and "Ballylasson, by Mr. Hugh Willoughby," but these and several of the other mansions have repeatedly changed owners since his time.

The only remaining round tower in the county is that of Drumbo.

On the high hill of Tullyard, there is a rath constructed of earth, loose stones, and vitrified substances, resembling the cairns of Scotland. It has been supposed, but probably not on sufficient authority, that a fortified town formerly existed here.

Near Drumbo are the remains of the old castle of Hillhall, a square fortification with four flanks, belonging to the Marquis of Downshire, and deriving its name from one of his ancestors, by whom it was built.

Purdy's Burn House, occupied by Mr. Hill Wilson, in the time of Harris, now the property of Mr. Batt, is well situated, standing within a picturesque and well wooded demesne.

The family of Batt, originally from Cornwall, was founded in Ireland, by an officer in the army of Cromwell. His grandson was succeeded by Samuel Batt, father of Major Thomas Batt, who was killed in the American war. He was followed in the succession by his youngest brother Robert Batt, of Ozier-hill, in the County of Wexford, who was succeeded by his eldest son, Narcissus,\* the father of Robert, and grandfather of Robert Narcissus, the late, and present owners of the property, the latter being married to Marion Emily, a daughter of Sir Edward Walker, of Nottinghamshire.†

The Parish Church is a neat, but plain structure, of which the patronage was formerly in the bishop of the diocese.

The Chapel annexed to this parish was called, in former times, St. Malachi's of Crumlin, the name by which Hillsborough was then known. "Crumlin membrum diachonatus, parcella de Drumbo." The name Crumlin signifies the crooked glen.

\* Burke's Landed Gentry, 1871.

† Ord. Surv., ss. 11, 24.

The Church of Drumnow, now the parish of Drumbeg, derives its name from the Irish *Druin beag*, a little ridge. Part of this parish is in the County of Antrim, but the County Down portion contains a population of 2,444 persons, the total inhabitants amounting to 3,627.

A part of the ancient manor of Drumbrackan, or Downbreaklyn, was in this parish, the remainder being in the parishes of Hillsborough and Drumbo. Drumbeg, from being intersected by the river Lagan, was sometimes called "Drom in the Lagan." Hugh, the second Lord Viscount Montgomery, in 1639, granted in trust for his brother, Captain George Montgomery, the manor of Downbreaklyn, and all the "townes," lands, and hereditaments, thereto belonging, with the power to hold Courts leet, and baron, of the said manor, with all the usual appurtenances of castles, houses, fishings &c. George Montgomery built a house at Drumbrackley where he resided. He was called by "ye agnomen of Kinnshoker, Anglice, hawk head, from *Ceann*, a head, and *Scabhae*, pronounced showak, a hawk." He was buried at Newtonards.

In more recent times the courts leet and courts baron, were held at Four loan ends, the appointment of officers being made by Mr. Batt, of Purdy's Burn, into whose possession the manor had passed by purchase.\*

Part of the rectorial tithes of Drumbeg were impropriate in the severai landed proprietors, as lessors under the Marquis of Donegal.

The Church, which occupies the ancient site, was rebuilt by subscription, in 1795, aided by a gift of £461 from the Board of First fruits.

It has a tower surmounted by a spire, which was blown down and rebuilt in 1831, at the expense of Mr. John Charley. The patronage was in the bishop of the diocese.

The church of Drum corresponds principally with the modern parish of Drumbeg.

\* Inquisition No. 109, Carl.

At the dissolution, the rectory was appropriate to the Abbey of Movilla.

The Church of Cloncolmoc (the plain of Colman), is now unknown, but possibly it may have been a Church, formerly existing in Newforge, a townland in the parish of Drumbeg.

The Glebe-house, Newforge, and Trench House, are the only mansions of any consequence in the parish.

The Parish of Lambeg. Only a small portion of this parish, comprising 1191 acres, is in the County of Down, the remainder being in Antrim. The population of the Down portion is 1447, and of the entire parish, 3268 persons.

The principal houses are Chrome Hill, and Glenmore, the property of Mr. Richardson, which is surrounded by very extensive bleachgreens, and was formerly the residence of Mr. Williamson, who effected great improvements in the linen trade.

Chrome Hill is occupied by Mr. Richard Niven, son of a Scotch gentleman, of much enterprise and ingenuity, who established in this vicinity, extensive works for printing coloured muslins, in which he first applied with success, his invention of the "Bichromates," and he also introduced the oxide of chrome, into the ornamental departments of the China manufacture.

The Church is a plain but neat structure. Part of the churchyard adjoining the Church, is called the Nun's Garden, where possibly a nunnery may at one time have existed, but if so, no ruins now exist.

The Church of Blaris now the parish of Blaris or Lisburn, is partly in Down, and partly in Antrim. The County Down portion adjoins the parishes of Drumbeg, Lambeg, and Hillsborough.

The present incumbent of the parish of Blaris is Dean Stannus, respectable alike from age, character, and ecclesiastical position.

The name of Blaris is derived from Blar, signifying a field, or battle-field.

That part of Blaris, which is in the County of Down, comprises an area of 3,063 acres, with a population of 3,749 persons, 1,024 of whom are residents in the Down portion of Lisburn, the



population of the entire parish being 15,367, and of the town 7,676 persons.

The principal houses in the County Down portion of this parish are Eglantine, Carnbane House, Myrtle Hill, Cuppage Hall, Sprucefield, Blaris Lodge, Maze House, Culcavey Cottage, Maze House, Ogle's Grove, and Shamrock Vale.

Camp Lodge, the property of the Rev. Maurice M'Kay, incumbent of Broomhedge, stands on the site of the encampment of the Royal forces, before the Battle of the Boyne, and the Rebellion of 1798, and the quarters of the cavalry still retain the name of Troopers' Field.

Sprucefield is the residence of Mr. Thomas Stannus, son of the Dean of Ross, descended from the family of Stannus, in the Queen's County, who originally came from Scotland. The name is first mentioned, in Ireland, in a patent of naturalisation of James I., granted to William Stanhouse, of Carlbolzie, whose son, James, of Carlingford, (where he had extensive properties,) was buried in the church-yard of Knock, in the County of Down.

Cuppage Hall was once the residence of a branch of the Cuppage family, various members of which have been connected with the County of Down.

The family of Cuppage is of long standing in Ireland, having first come over from England with Sir Arthur Chichester, and settled at Coleraine, for which Stephen Cuppage sat in Parliament in 1661.

Faustin Cuppaidge, another branch of the family, served in Lord Conway's troop, against the Irish rebels. John, third son of Faustin Cuppaidge, was rector of Magheralin, and married, in 1693, Elizabeth Waring, daughter of Mr. William Waring, of Waringstown.

John Loftus Cuppaidge, a son of Captain John Cuppage, who was a grandson of Faustin Cuppaidge, married Dorothy, daughter of Dean Hancock, and one of his daughters was married to Lord Viscount Dunlo.

Most of the cadets of this family have served either in the army or

navy, four of them having risen to the rank of general. The present members of the Cuppage or Cuppaidge family (originally the same name) who are still connected with the County of Down by birth, residence, or property, are Mr. Adam Cuppage, of Glenbank, in the County of Antrim, the Rev. Adam Cuppage, of Drum, and Mr. Edmund Cuppaidge, of Tamnaharry, in the County of Down.

The ruins of Castlerobin, erected by Sir Robert Norton. in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, of which the walls remaining are eighty-four feet long, thirty-six feet wide, and forty feet high, surrounded by a large moat, are situated on the Whitemountain. In the vicinity, and near the town, is an ancient burial-ground called Kilrush. In some inquisitions Blaris is called "Ballytempleblariss."

The yarn, thread, and linen manufactures are very extensively carried on, in the neighbourhood of Lisburn.

To the north of the town stands the Ulster Provincial School for the Society of Friends, founded by Mr. John Handcock, in 1794, who bequeathed funds for the erection of the premises. It has accommodation for fifty children, who are eligible for admission at eight, and allowed to remain until they are fourteen years of age, when they are apprenticed to some business.

The Down and Antrim divisions of the town of Lisburn are connected by an ancient stone bridge. It is clean and spacious, and consists principally of one very long street, expanding at one point into a large triangular area, in which the market-house is situate, and into this main street several cross streets lead from different points. There are many very good houses, especially in Castle-street, which is the best quarter of the town.

The public buildings are the Irish Church, three Presbyterian Churches, a Salem Chapel, and the respective places of worship of the Roman Catholics, the different orders of Methodists, and of the Society of Friends.

The Church was constituted the Cathedral, of the United Dioceses of Down and Connor, by charter of Charles II.

It is a spacious and handsome building, with a tower to which a spire of octagonal form was added, in 1808, by the liberality of the Marquis of Hertford, who also provided it with a fine organ. It contains some interesting monuments, especially one erected to the memory of Bishop Jeremy Taylor, who died here in 1667.

A large structure erected by Government, in former times, for the Huguenot emigrants, is now occupied as a manor court, and petty sessions-house. Other buildings are a market house, erected in the centre of the town, the station-house of the Ulster Railway, and a linen hall.

There are six alms-houses, situated in the County of Antrim.

Extensive chemical works have been long carried on, on the County Down side of the river.

The Market is held on Tuesday, and it is largely frequented.

Lisburn formerly gave the titles of earl and viscount, to the family of Vaughan, but they have long since lapsed.

The celebrated race-course at the Maze is in this parish, and a neat modern stand-house was erected some years ago. The course is circular, and having a good, dry, sandy turf, it is admirably adapted for its purpose.

In the reign of James I., and long after, Lisburn called Lis-negarvey, in Irish, Lios-nageearbach, the fort of the Carrogh or Gamester, was an inconsiderable village. Its rapid increase was due to Edward, Viscount Conway, to whom, in 1627, the first Charles granted the remainder of the manor of Killultagh, a portion of it having been previously given to his ancestor, Sir Fulke Greville, by the same monarch. Lord Conway built a castle at Lisburn, which became the head of the manor.

By this grant were also conferred the privileges of courts-leet and courts-baron, view of frankpledge, minor courts for debts, up to the amount of £2, and a court of record for sums not exceeding £20. After the erection of the castle, some English and Welsh families were induced by the proprietors to settle here, and a town of over fifty houses was erected.

On the breaking out of the rebellion in 1641, a thousand men

assembled, and protected the place for some time, against the insurgents. On the 8th of November in that year, when the garrison consisted of only five newly-raised companies, and Lord Conway's troop of horse, the insurgent army, under Sir Phelim O'Nial, Sir Con Magennis, and General Plunket advanced against the town. Sir Arthur Tyringham, with a small force, aided by Sir George Rawdon, repulsed the enemy with great slaughter; and further reinforcements from Carrickfergus and Belfast, having arrived, the insurgents, despairing of success, set fire to the houses, which in a few hours were reduced to ashes, a bloody fight being maintained, the while, in the burning town, until near midnight. The insurgents were finally put to flight, leaving a large number of slain, amounting to more than triple the number of the garrison, who had not more than from twenty to thirty men killed.

In 1644, an attempt was again made on the town, by General Monroe, but it was frustrated by the vigilance of the garrison; and that officer, with the Scottish forces under his command, was signally defeated on the plains of Lisnegarvey by Colonel Venables, and Sir Charles Coote, two of Cromwell's commanders, to the former of whom the castle surrendered in 1650. At this time the inhabitants amounted to 1000 souls.

In 1689, on the landing of Schomberg, a body of troops, in the interest of James, assembled here, but abandoned the town, without any attempt at defence.

In 1707, the town and castle were burned to the ground, and the latter was never rebuilt, but the former has been much improved from time to time, by the Marquis of Hertford. At the period of the fire, there were upwards of 400 houses in the town, the majority of the occupants being linen weavers.

Charles II. conferred by charter the elective franchise on the inhabitants, who, not being a body corporate, had no seneschal, and the seneschal of the manor of Killultagh was therefore appointed returning officer. The right of election was vested in all the inhabitants, being potwollers. By the 35th George III.

cap. 29, the elective right was limited to £5 householders, and by a late act, for amending the representation, the boundaries of the borough, previously very indistinct, were clearly defined and enlarged.

The area within the borough is now 1364 acres, and in 1869, the electors amounted to 326, whilst in 1836, they were only 134.

The parish of Kilmore, coille mor, the big wood, anciently termed Kilmore-Moran, contains a population of 4395 persons, of whom 2647 are in this barony, and the remainder in the barony of Kinelarty. The population includes 688 residents, in the town of Crossgar, and 131, in the hamlet of Kilmore.

The patronage was peculiar, being in the Crown on every fifth vacancy, and in the Bishop of the diocese on the other four.

The parish is traversed by the County Down Railway.

The church is a small edifice, built in 1792, principally at the expense of Mr. Sharman Crawford and the present incumbent, the Rev. Andrew Creery, is the son of a former archdeacon of Connor.

The four townlands of Teconnel, Magheralone, Rosconnor, and Murvaclogher were disannexed from the parish of Loughin-island, and added to that of Kilmore 1718.

There are four ancient cemeteries in this parish, viz.:—the old church-yard in the townland of Carnacally, and one in each of the townlands of Barnamaghery, Creevyargon, and Listooder.

Harris speaks of Rademon House as “Rademmin,” the seat of a Mr. Johnston, and the Down Survey refers to a castle of “Radaman,” situated in the townland of Rademman. The mansion of Rademman House is at present occupied by Mr. James Sharman Crawford, M.P., a brother of Major Crawford, of Crawfordsburn.

The town of Crossgar is well built, and has been much improved by the present proprietor, Mr. James Cleland, whose mansion of Tobar Mhuir, in a demesne, immediately adjoining the town, in which there are a constabulary barrack and sessions-house, where



petty sessions are held, and a station-house, on the Downpatrick and Belfast line of railway.

The parish of Saintfield, anciently Tawnaghneev, Tamnac Naom, or Naemh, the field of the saints, according to Donovan, derives its name from Tamhnaidh naomtha, a term signifying the holy field.

The parish is not noticed in the Taxation, and the ancient name is not now applied to the parish, or the town, but to a dwelling-house, and townland, adjacent.

The population of the parish of Saintfield amounts to 3817 persons, in addition to 904 residents in the town.

In the bed of the river, closely adjoining, there is a small island, called York Island, in which a number of the York Fencibles, killed in an action with the insurgents in 1798, are reported to have been buried.

The church, situate in the town, is a plain and neat structure, with square towers, in the early English style, rebuilt, in 1776, near the site of the previous structure.

The patronage was vested, alternately, in Viscount Bangor, and the Earl of Carrick, in whom the rectory was inappropriate, before the passing of the Irish Church Act.

The glebe-house is large and commodious. It was erected, in 1750, at the expense of the then incumbent, and it has a small glebe attached.

The origin of Saintfield dates from the beginning of the eighteenth century, when General Price had the roads opened up to Downpatrick and Belfast, and made various other improvements, including renovation of the parish church, and the erection of a barrack for a troop of horse. He also induced manufacturers of linen, and other artisans, to settle in the place, for the exercise of their trades.

There is a large fort adjacent to Saintfield, and many others in the vicinity, but the entrenchments have almost entirely disappeared, as I have been obligingly informed by Dr. Fulton, of that town.



There was formerly a manor court, but like all other institutions of the same class it has been abolished by law.

There are many good farm-houses in the parish, but the only residences of the gentry are, Saintfield House, Rowallane, The Cottage, and The Vicarage, occupied respectively by Mr. James Price, the Rev. John Moore, Mr. Francis Ward, and the Incumbent.

The Prices are a family of long standing in the county, and originally of Welsh extraction, Nicholas Price, of Hollymount, having married Catherine, daughter of Mr. James Hamilton, M.P., and widow of Vere Essex Cromwell, Earl of Ardglass, was succeeded by his son, Lieutenant-General Nicholas Price, whose third son, Nicholas Price, M.P. for Lisburn, married Mary, daughter of the first Lord Conway, and was succeeded by their son, Francis, who married a daughter of Mr. Matthew Forde, of Seaforde, and was followed in the succession, by their son, Nicholas, of Saintfield House, who married Lady Sarah Pratt, daughter of Charles, first Earl of Camden. Their only child, Elizabeth Anne, intermarried with Mr. James Blackwood, of Strangford, a branch of the house of Ballyleidy, who, on the death of his father-in-law, succeeded to the property, and assumed the name of Price. Their son, James Charles, of Saintfield House, the present owner of the property, is married to Anne Harriet, a member of the Savage family.

Harris states, that Nicholas Price, before mentioned, born at Green Castle, in the barony of Mourne, ultimately resided at Hollymount, "in credit, honour, and good repute." He rose to the rank of major-general, in the British army, and represented the County of Down in Parliament, for many years.

Rowallane, the residence of the Rev. John Robert Moore, has been improved and ornamented with much taste and judgment. Mr. Moore is of Scottish lineage, his first ancestor in this kingdom having been a colonel in the army of King William III., who obtained a grant of land in Ulster. This gentleman was one of the "Muire's" of Rowallane, in Ayreshire, a very ancient family,

whose pedigree is traced back to the thirteenth century in "The Historie and Descent of the House of Rowallane," deposited in the Stirling Library of Glasgow.

Mr. John Moore, of Clough, eldest son of Hugh Moore, a captain in the 9th Dragoons, married Deborah, a daughter of Mr. Robert Isaac, of Holywood, and their eldest son, Hugh Moore, of Eglantine House and Mountpanther, served as a captain in the 5th Dragoon Guards, and aid-de-camp to General Needham, during the rebellion of 1798. He married Priscilla Cecilia, daughter of Mr. Robert Armitage, of Kensington, and widow of the grandfather of the present Sir Frederick Shaw, Bart., and their eldest son, John Robert Moore, A.M., is the present representative of the family.

The other children of Captain Moore were William Armitage, and four sisters, of whom Jane died unmarried. Priscilla Cecilia married the third Earl of Annesley, Caroline Ann Elizabeth, the Rev. J. P. Garrett, and Maria Clarissa William Humphreys, Esq., of Ballyhaise, in the County of Cavan. Lady Annesley had several sons, including the late and present Earls. Mr. John Robert Moore was married to Jane, widow of Mr. H. Davidson, and daughter of Mr. R. Morris, of Caermarthen, who died in 1856.

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## CHAPTER XXX.

### Topography of the Barony of Lower Castlereagh.

THIS barony called, also, in old times, "Castleclaneboy," contains a population of 26,893 persons.

The population of the parish of Comber amounts to 7206 and of the town to 1713 persons.

In bye-gone days, a dwelling-house, of which there are still some remains, was erected at Mount Alexander, closely adjoining the town of Comber, by Lord Montgomery, who was created Earl of Mount Alexander, by Charles II., but the title is long extinct.

Hugh, the second Earl of Mount Alexander, Viscount Montgomery of the "Great Ards," was born in 1650, in Newtown House. He successively filled the offices of privy councillor, governor of Charlemont Fort, general of the Confederated Protestants of Ulster, and master-general of the ordnance, under King William, brigadier-general, governor and custos rotulorum of the County of Down, and a lord justice of Ireland. He was buried at Newtownards, the place of his nativity.

His influence on the colonization and improvement of the County of Down was great and permanent.

Comber was formerly a perpetual curacy, the patronage being in the Marquis of Londonderry. This parish was tithe-free, with the exception of the townlands of Ballyanwood, Ballycreely, and Ballyhenry, the tithes of which were payable to the Marquis of Londonderry, who defrayed the curate's stipend.

The church of Comber is a neat structure. It contains handsome marble monuments, erected in memory of the Rev. Robert

Mortimer, and Captain Chetwynd, Lieutenant Unet, and Ensign Sparks, of the York Fencibles, who fell in an affair with the rebels near Saintfield, in 1798.

The ancient parish of Ballyrichard now forms the north-east portion of Comber. It was appropriate to the Priory of Cross-bearers of Down, and afterwards annexed to the Deanery of Down. There is still a townland of Ballyrichard, but no traces of a church.

The Church of Ballimac-gahan was appropriate to the Abbey of Comber, and the chapel of Rogerstown was probably also a part of this parish, but all vestiges of both structures have long disappeared, although there is still a townland in the parish denominated Ballimacgahan.

Comber, according to Harris, was a mean village in his day, but it is now a neat town, consisting of a square and three principal streets.

The name is derived from Comar, signifying the confluence of two waters, viz., two small streams in the locality, which form the Esler.

The buildings in Comber are the parish church, and a Unitarian, and Presbyterian churches. There are also a Roman Catholic chapel, and various schools. The distilleries, until recently, belonging to Mr. John Miller, have long been celebrated for their produce, but this lucrative concern, perhaps the oldest in Ireland, established in 1765, has now passed into the possession of Mr. Bruce.

An extensive bleach-green, capable of finishing 20,000 pieces of linen annually, as well as large flour and spinning mills, are the property of the Messrs. Andrews, a family long resident here. Andrews is originally an English name.

An Abbey of Cistercian Monks was founded near Comber, it is not certainly known by whom, nor on what exact site, in 1199, although ascribed by some to the family of the Whites, who were early settlers in this county under John de Courcy.

An Abbey of Regular Canons, still more ancient, is alleged to

have been founded by St. Patrick, and it is to this latter, that the appellations of Domnach Combur, used by Jocelyn, and of Com-murensse Caenobium, applied by O'Flaherty, properly refer. Eventually the site and possessions of the abbey were granted to James Hamilton, Lord Clandeboy, at an annual rent of £2 2s. 2d., and they afterwards came, by assignment, to Lord Viscount Ards, from whom they passed to the family of Londonderry.

The possessions of the Abbey of Comber were very extensive, including seven townlands, and the tithes of ten and a-half similar denominations, the rectories of Kilmademanagh, and the lands and tithes of the quarter "Kilmud," and the tithes of five other townlands.

They also comprised the territory of Ballymagherghan, with the tithes of nine and a-half townlands; "the rectory and townland of Tunaghryn, with the tythes," as well as the tithes of six other townlands, together with the right of advowson, and the patronage of the several vicarages.

The race-course, once existing near the town of Comber, described by Harris as "a noted fine sod," has long been disused. Numerous raths are scattered over the parish, and there is a large but dilapidated cromlech, in the townland of Ballygraffan.

The principal houses are Ballybeen, Barnhill, Maxwell's Court, Ballyrush, Ballygowan House, Ballyalloly House, Tullyhubbert, Nurseryville, and the mansions of the Messrs. Andrews, at Comber. Ballybeen House and Barnhill, are respectively the property of Mr. Birch and Mr. Stone, both names being of English extraction.

Sir Robert Rollo Gillespie, a distinguished soldier, was born at Comber, in 1766, and entered the army at an early age. When at Port-au-Prince, his house was attacked at night by assassins, and armed only with his sword, after a desperate conflict, he killed six of his assailants, when the rest fled. His most distinguished exploits were performed at the taking of Vellore, and storming of Cornelis, which resulted in the capture of Java. Having risen to the rank

of major-general, he was appointed to the command of Meerut, and soon after, in an expedition against the Ghoort Kalees, in 1814, he fell, shot through the heart, at the head of his regiment (the 8th Dragoons), in a desperate attempt to take the fortress of Kalanga, in the valley of the Doon, when within a few paces of the walls, his last memorable words being, "One shot more for the honour of Down!"

A memorial was raised at Meerut over his grave, and a handsome column, with a suitable inscription, was subsequently erected in 1845, in the town of Comber, whilst the gratitude of the nation was attested by the erection of a statue, voted by both Houses of Parliament, in the Cathedral of St. Paul.

Hugh Gillespie, of Gilleaspick, one of the Lochaw branch of the Campbell family, settled at Cherryvalley, in 1715, was married to a daughter of the third Lord Rollo, descended (according to Douglas) from William the Conqueror, and he was followed in the succession by his son, Robert, and his grandson, Sir Rollo, the subject of the present memoir.

The church of Dondafnald, now the parish of Dundonald, takes the name from a large rath, which closely adjoins the church; the Irish *Dun domhnaile* signifying the fort of Donnell, one of the O'Neils. It contains, inclusive of 121 residents in the village, a population of 1217 persons.

Near the fort in question, under which a cave passes, there is an upright stone pillar, ten feet high.

The principal mansions are Stormount Castle, recently remodelled in the castellated style, and Summerfield, the residences of Mr. Clelland and Mr. Gordon. Other houses in the parish, are Rosepark, Unicarvel, and Dunleady, which Harris refers to, as "Dunlady," the mansion, at that time, of a Mr. Robert Lambart, whose family has long passed away.

Nearly adjoining the village of Dundonald there is a chalybeate spring, in the demesne of Summerfield.

About a mile from the village, near the old road leading to



Newtownards, there is a remarkable cromlech, called the Kempe Stones. Kempe in Anglo-Saxon, signifying a warren, and according to tradition, a giant is buried there. In old records, the district is called Baille Clough togal, *i.e.*, the town of the stone of the strangers, otherwise Greengraves, by which latter name it is still known.

A small church was erected on the site of a former church in 1771, and a tower was added in 1774.

The glebe-house was built in 1820, and the patronage was formerly in Mr. Cleland. The ancient chapelries of Warrentown, now Ballyoran, and Castlebeg, have merged in this parish, and no relics of the buildings remain. The rectory of Ballyoran, extending over four townlands, was appropriate to the abbey of Inch, but Ballyoran is now merely a townland.

The family of Cleland is descended from James Cleland of that ilk in Lanarkshire.

The Rev. John Cleland, Prebendary of Armagh, married Esther, daughter and co-heiress of Samuel Jackson, of Stormount, by his wife Margaret Vateau, daughter and heiress of Paul Peter Isaac Vateau, a Huguenot emigrant. The present representative of the family is a son of Mr. Samuel Jackson Cleland, and grandson of Mr. Cleland, a fellow pupil, and intimate friend of the celebrated Lord Castlereagh.

Adjoining the Church there is a handsome monument, erected to the memory of the late Mr. Cleland, who was accidentally crushed by a falling wall.

Mr. Gordon is of the same lineage, as Mr. Gordon of Florida Manor.

In the Presbyterian meeting-house of Dundonald, there is an iron safe, or treasure chest, appropriated for keeping the Communion plate, and the records of the Church.

It was procured from the wreck of one of the vessels of the Spanish Armada, which took place near Dunluce Castle, and presented to the congregation by a merchant of Belfast.

A similar safe is preserved in the tower of London, and two

others, a larger and smaller one, were removed to Glenarm Castle, in 1740, from the house of Mr. Stewart, the agent of Lord Antrim, the keys having been surrendered to his Lordship, by Mr. John Cuppage, assistant to Mr. Stewart at the time.\*

The Church of Haliwode, now the parish of Holywood, had the ancient name of Ardmacnissi, or Sanctus Boscus, all being synonymous terms. In the year 1210, King John, on his way to Downpatrick, halted "*apud sanctum boscum*."

The ancient Church was of great age, and occupied the site of the Franciscan Priory.

The present parish comprised the ancient churches of Ballymechan, or Columbkille, belonging to the priory of Holywood, and Craigavad, appertaining to the Abbey of Bangor.

These parishes were united in 1626. The small Franciscan Priory consisted of three orders which were dependent on the Franciscan Abbey of Bangor, and had an endowment of five townlands.

The population of the parish of Holywood, including the residents in the villages of Newbridge, Strandtown or Dundela, Ballyhackhamore, and in the township of Holywood, amounts to 8565 persons. The residents in the township, which includes the town of Holywood, are 3573.

The present Church of Holywood is a handsome building, substantially repaired and enlarged, in 1871, and provided with a new organ.

John a Sacro bosco derived his Latin appellation from Holywood, the place of his birth. He was distinguished as a philosopher and mathematician, and died at Paris in 1244.

Of the old Church of Ballymichigan or Ballymechan, not a vestige now remains, although it is known to have occupied the site of the present orchard at The Moat, the residence of Mr. Thomas Valentine. In the erection of this handsome building,

\* Hill's Macdonnells of Antrim. See Sir Henry Bagnal's letters, and Mr. Hill's description, pp. 190 and 191.

some tombstones taken from the old burying ground, were made available. In the most ancient collection of ecclesiastical statutes, now remaining, which was discovered in the year 1807, in the office of the chief remembrancer, at Westminster, enclosed in a leathern pouch, marked Hibernia, there is a taxation roll, dated in 1307, which was drawn up on account of Edward II., who had obtained the tenth part of the ecclesiastical revenues of Ireland. In this Roll the following entry occurs, *Ecclesia de Ballymichan j iiiii ma decia V. S., i. e.,* four marks, equal to £2 13s. 4d., and the tenths, 5s. 4d., being the valuation at that time. According to the Terrier, or Ledger Book of Down and Connor, drawn up in 1615, the Church of Ballymahon was then held by the Dean of Down, and the amount the Bishop was entitled to from this establishment termed there “*Capella de Ballie O’Meachan*” of Bangor, was as follows, “The curate pays in proxies 20d. ; Refection 20d. ; and synodals 2s., in all 5s. 4d.”

The Church appears early to have fallen into ruins, as it is not included in the return of the “Bishoprick,” made out by Bishop Echlin, at the dissolution.

The rectory of the parish of Ballymahon, which included the townlands of Ballymahon, Ballymachorish, *i. e.,* the town of the cranes (probably the present Strandtown), with Ballymajor, now termed Ballymisert, was appropriated to the Abbey of Bangor.\*

At Ballymechan there were recently some stones, surmised, but on very questionable grounds, to have belonged to the tomb of Con O’Neil.

Ballymahon townland is supposed to have derived its name from the family of O’Mahona, which more than once gave kings to the territory of Uladh. It passed by patent, with other extensive grants, to Sir James Hamilton, and in a rent roll of the Hamilton estates, dated 1681, published by the late Councillor Thomas K. Lowry, of Killyleagh, “Ballymaser” is set down at £7 10s., Strandtown, which probably included Ballymahon, at £25, Knock-

\* Ulst. Inquis. No. 2, Jac. I. Down.

columbkil, or the Knock, at £14, Ballyhackamore, at £5, and Ballymacarrett, then let to Mr. T. Pottinger, at £20 per annum. This statement is not without interest, as showing the comparative value of landed property, at that remote period.

The Church of Cragger, now Craigavad *i. e.* the "Rock of the Boat," is a perpetual curacy, the patronage being vested in trustees.

In a rocky field between Craigavad House and the sea, the foundations of this small church may still be traced, but only one stone remains to mark the site where the ancient building stood, although there is still a townland of that name in the parish. At the dissolution the Church of Cragger, with the tithes of five adjacent parishes, was appropriated to the Abbey of Bangor.

Strandtown, sometimes called Dundela, is a small but rapidly increasing village. It has an Episcopal Church, a police barrack, several shops, and a post and money-order office. The Church is a small but neat building, with an increasing congregation, rendering the erection of a new church desirable.

The position of the "Capella de Dundela," is stated by Reeves, to correspond to that of Knock-Church, in the ancient deanery of Blaethewyc, but Dundela is not in the parish of Knockbreda, but in Holywood, to which its Church is a Chapel-of-ease, the patronage being vested in trustees.\*

The view from Holywood, across the Lough, towards the Antrim Mountains, is certainly very beautiful. Bishop Mant says, "It is one of the noblest prospects in every direction that I have seen."† A new species of rose, discovered in this parish by the late Mr. John Templeton, was at first called "Rosa Hibernica," but the name was afterwards changed to "Rosa Templetonia," in honour of the discoverer.

The dispensary of the sub-division of the Castlereagh Dispensary district adjoins the village of Ballyhackamore.

\* Monast. Heb. p. 121.

† Archdeacon Mant's Remains.

Wonderful changes have taken place in this parish since the period, when the only houses considered worthy of special mention by Harris, were that of "Mr. Isaac, at Holywood, and the houses and plantations of Cultra, occupied by Mr. Hugh Kennedy."

Many large and some elegant mansions have been recently erected, and villas of more or less pretension are scattered over the entire parish. The land is very fertile, as the daily-increasing demand for agricultural produce, both for home consumption, and export, has led to many improvements in the mode of culture.

Courts-leet and courts-baron were formerly held at Holywood, the seneschal of the manor having jurisdiction over twenty-four townlands, in the parishes of Holywood, Knockbreda, Dundonald, and Ballymacarret.

The mansions in the district are so numerous, as to preclude the possibility of adverting to more than a few of them.

The episcopal palace of Bishop Knox, near Holywood, is a large and commodious edifice, overlooking the Lough of Belfast.

The Knox family are of very ancient lineage, and claim descent from Uchter, the Saxon prince, who founded the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumberland. He was brother of Hengist and Horsa, through Cospatrick, who was the Royal Earl of Northumberland, at the time of the Norman conquest, and afterwards Earl of Dunbar and March, in the Scotch peerage. This Cospatrick was the son of Maldred, Prince of the Isles, and Alghitha, the heiress of Northumberland. The first of this race, of whom there are any authentic records, was Uchtred, whose son, Adam, early in the thirteenth century, obtained the lands of Knox and Ranfurly, in Renfrewshire, taking his surname from the district. He was succeeded by his son, John Knox, of that ilk. In 1474, Uchtred Knox received a new charter of the lands of Knox, Ranfurly, and Griff Castle. His heir was his son, Uchtred, in whose family the property remained until 1665, when the male line became extinct. William, the brother of Uchtred Knox, was followed in succession by William, William, and Mark, his immediate descendants. Mark Knox resided at Glasgow, and



had one son, Thomas Knox, who married Elizabeth Spang, daughter of a Danish gentleman, and their son, Thomas Knox, settled at Dungannon. His estates devolved on his nephew, John Knox, who was succeeded by his only son, Thomas, member of Parliament for Dungannon. He had an heir, also called Thomas, who was elevated to the peerage of Ireland, as Baron Wells, in 1781, and advanced to the title of Viscount Northland, in 1791. He was succeeded by his son, Thomas, and another son, Charles, held the Archdeaconry of Armagh, and had, with other issue, Robert Bent Knox, the present Lord Bishop of Down and Connor, and Dromore, who is married to a daughter of Mr. Gibbon Fitzgibbon, of the county of Clare. The second Viscount Knox, Baron Ranfurly, in the English peerage, was elevated to the Earldom of Ranfurly in 1831. This family had at one time large and valuable possessions in the County of Down, in the parishes of Knockbreda and Holywood.

A considerable portion of the district, studded with handsome villas, is now the property of Sir Thomas M'Clure, Baronet, who, by forming convenient roads, fences, and plantations, and granting long building leases, has given a great impetus to improvement in the district.

The present representative of the Ranfurly family is Thomas Henry Stewart Knox, Earl of Ranfurly, resident at Dungannon Park, in the County of Tyrone, where his extensive estates principally lie.

In the seventeenth century, Andrew Knox, who was at the time, Bishop of the Isles, was appointed to the see of Raphoe, and various other branches, probably from the same original stock, became settlers about that period, in Down, Antrim, Derry, and Mayo, and their descendants still maintain their position in these counties.

The earliest occurrence of the name, in Ireland, that has fallen in my way, is the signature of Thomas Knox, appended to an inquisition, holden at Antrim, on the 12th of July, 1605.

The Moat, the handsome mansion of Mr. Thomas Valentine,



built in the Victoria style of architecture, is situated in the town-land of Ballymahon.

Ormiston, a large and imposing structure, in the Scotch baronial style, is the residence of Mr. James Combe. The family of Combe is of Scotch, and originally of English, lineage, and several of its members have been distinguished for their literary and scientific attainments.

Norwood Tower is the seat of Mr. James Alexander Henderson, Mayor of Belfast, and proprietor of the *Belfast News-Letter*, a well-known and influential organ of public opinion, and consistent advocate of conservative principles.

Glenmachan House is the property of Mr. Ewart, a gentleman, originally of Scotch descent, well known for the liberality with which he supports all objects of public utility, and especially for his services in behalf of the Church of Ireland, since the untoward disendowment of that establishment.

Belmont, the residence of Sir Thomas M'Clure, Baronet, formerly member for the borough of Belfast, is a mansion of old standing. His family is descended from Scottish ancestors, one of whom fought under King William at the battle of the Boyne.

Hollywood House is another mansion of long standing, and the property there, since the settlement of 1605, has been successively in possession of the families of Hamilton, Isaac, Bunbury, Kennedy, and Harrison, the present owner.

The manorial rights of the Hollywood estate, with the advowson, were bought by the Hill family, and descended to Lord Dunganon, being now (the right of Church presentation excepted) vested in Lord Arthur Edwin Hill-Trevor.

Cultra House is the property of Mr. Kennedy, his ancestors having settled here in 1668. John Kennedy, a member of the family of the Earls of Cassilis, purchased the estate of Cultra from the Earl of Clanbrassil, in 1671. His descendants in a direct line were, Hugh, John, Hugh, and Robert Stewart-Kennedy, who married a sister of Mr. Ward, of Bangor Castle, and their son, Robert John, is now the representative of the family.

Amongst other handsome mansions in the parish, we may enumerate Red Car, Mr. Dunville ; Cairnburn, Mr. H. Smyth ; Maryville, Mr. Heron ; Edenvale, Mr. Harland ; Clifton, Captain M'Cance ; Olinda, Mr. Mitchell ; Dalchoolin, Mr. Moore ; Ballymenoch, Mr. Greg ; Edgecumbe House, Mr. Lemon ; Garnerville, Colonel Garner ; Glenebor, Mr. Black ; Mertoun, Mr. Grimshaw ; Clonallan, Mr. D. Coates ; Glenview, Mr. D. Carmichael ; Cabin Hill, Mr. Dinnen ; Laurel Lodge, Mr. Walkington ; Clonoriel, Mr. Lepper ; Kineder, Mr. Hawkins ; and Lismullan, Mr. Mullan, with many others.

Amongst the public buildings in Holywood, there are gasworks, a post-office, police barrack, coast-guard station, court-house, and public schools, founded by the late Dr. Sullivan.

The religious buildings are the parish church, two Presbyterian and a Unitarian meeting-house, Roman Catholic chapel, and Methodist church. Most of these buildings are new and handsome.

In a set of old maps of the ancient Clondeboy, of date 1624-5, obligingly submitted to my examination by Lord Dufferin, "East Hallewod" is placed where Holywood now stands, and West "Hallewod" near "Ballymacarrit," whilst the Kinnegar, a sandy spit of ground, is set down as "Connicar, Connikeere, or Cunnegar," from coinin, (pronounced cunnean,) a rabbit.

In the near vicinity is a bank, on which vast quantities of mussels (*mytilus edulis*) are taken, and used as food. This fish, though generally safe, has occasionally given rise to fatal results, from some hitherto unascertained poisonous quality. Speedy emetics, as sulphate of zinc, and æther for the difficulty of breathing, are, perhaps, the best immediate remedies. Neither perfect cooking, nor the use of the fish in a fresh state, prevent its poisonous effects.\*

Formerly Holywood had a good sandy beach, well adapted for bathing, but this has become in a great measure covered with a

\* Combe Edin. Med. and Surgical Journal, vol. xxix., and Christison on Poisons.

deposit of mud, brought down from the channel at Belfast. Even this mud is interesting to the naturalist, as it is the home of the synapta, a curious worm-like creature, allied to the sea urchin. The synapta is remarkable for its curious epidermal appendages, brilliantly beautiful, when seen by polarised light, under the microscope.

The church of Bradach, now the parish of Knockbreda, Cnoc breadach, the hill of the breach, contains a population of 18,882 persons, of whom 341 are resident in the town of Newtownbreda, and 16,155 in Ballymacarret, which is within the municipal Borough of Belfast.

It has a police station, post-office, and alms-houses, built by subscription in 1810, and endowed with £100, by the Rev. Mr. Pratt, then the rector.

The principal mansions in the parish are Ormeau, a former residence of the Marquis of Donegal, Orangefield, Belvoir Park, Glentoran, Rosetta, Cherryvale, Nettlefield, Annadale, Fortbreda, Ravenhill, Beechhill House, and the Rectory.

Orangefield was described by Harris, more than a century ago, as the then residence of Mr. Pottinger, and the best house in the county at that time. The present mansion is a handsome modern building, recently erected, and the demesne is well wooded.

Belvoir Park is also a handsome structure, purchased from Lord Dungannon, who was its former proprietor.

The family of Houston, of Orangefield and Roddens, is of English lineage. The present representative is Mr. John Blakiston Houston, married to Marian, daughter of Mr. Richard S. Streatfield, of The Rocks, Sussex.

His father, Richard Baly Blakiston, a son of Sir Matthew Blakiston, Bart., served in the Royal Artillery, and intermarried with Mary Isabella, daughter and heiress of Mr. John Holmes Houston, of Orangefield, whose name and arms he assumed, in addition to his patronymic of Blakiston.

Rosetta and Glentoran are respectively the seats of Mr. Kennedy and Mr. William Coates.

Mr. Thomas Bateson, descended from an ancient family, in Lancashire, sold his estates there, and removing to Ireland, settled in the County of Down. His son, Thomas, succeeded him, and was followed by his son, Robert, who was created a baronet, in 1818. Sir Robert died in 1863, and was followed in the succession by his son, the present Sir Thomas Bateson, of Belvoir Park, Member of Parliament for Devizes, who is married to the Hon. Caroline, daughter of Lord Dynevor.

The ruins of Knock Church stand on a high hill, in the graveyard, near a rath of conical form. A gable and arch of the church were in good preservation, till they were gradually dilapidated by parties making way for graves and tombstones. The ruins belonged to the twelfth century. Massive stones, evidently the remains of what was once a cromlech, were removed with the same object, and the grave-yard is now greatly overcrowded.

Harris describes the parish church of Newtownbreda, as the "neatest and most complete in the kingdom, and built in 1747, at the sole expense of the Viscountess Dowager Midleton."

A portion of the walls of the ancient church of Bradach still remains, in the demesne of Belvoir Park. In the original cemetery, there is a mausoleum, erected by Arthur Trevor, afterwards created Viscount Dungannon. The living was recently in the patronage of Mr. Bristow. There is a good glebe-house, built in 1816, with a glebe consisting of twenty acres of land.

The church of Corgrippe, or Corgrille, "Capella de Corcrib," was a mensal, with two townlands "in the parish of Knock," which now forms a portion of Newtownbreda.

A part of the townland of Ballyhanwood and Gortgrib were formerly the estate of the Corporation of the Vicars Choral and Organist, of the Cathedral Church of St. Patrick, Armagh, who held under the See of Down. It was recently disposed of by the Temporalities Commissioners under the Irish Church Act.\*

\* Report of Ecclesiastical Commissioners and Ulst. Inquisition Jac. I. Down.

The ancient fortress of Castlereagh, Caislen riabhach, *i. e.* Grey Castle, formerly the baronial residence of a branch of the O'Neals, is said to have been erected in the time of Edward III., by Aodh Flann.

After the decease of the last O'Neal, the castle fell into decay, and it was subsequently purchased, together with the adjacent lands, by the Hillsborough family, in whose possession it now is. The castle stands on a hill, in the middle of one of the forts, usually ascribed to the Danes, and three fourths of which are still encompassed by a fosse.

At one time it was called Castle Clandeboy, but that name has long merged in that of Castlereagh. The hamlet of Castlereagh now consists of only a few scattered houses, though it was anciently the head of a manor, where the seneschal held his court.

The first occupant of Ormeau, was George Hamilton Chichester, Marquis and Earl of Donegal, and Earl of Belfast, descended from the Cirencesters, a family of distinguished lineage in Devonshire. His ancestor, Sir Arthur Chichester, was appointed Lord Deputy of Ireland in 1604. He was son of Sir John Chichester, Knight, high-sheriff of Downshire, in 1578, and M.P. in 1615, who was appointed Lord High Treasurer of Ireland, and resided chiefly at Carrickfergus. He was created Baron Chichester in 1612, and in 1639, Earl of Donegal. His successor was created Viscount Chichester in 1625.

The fifth Earl was advanced to the Marquisate of Donegal, in 1791, and the present Marquis succeeded his father, the second Marquis, in 1844, and sits as Baron Fisherwick, in the House of Lords.

Henry Spencer Chichester, Baron Templemore, a branch of the same noble family, succeeded his father, who was a son of Arthur, the first Marquis of Donegal, and whose title dates from 1831.

Lord Templemore has considerable property in Ballymacarret, in this County.

Ballymacarret was a vicarage of which the former patron was the incumbent of Knockbreda.



The Church, situated in the town, had room for over 500 individuals, but the largely increasing population rendered increased accommodation necessary, and Willowfield Church was erected in 1872. Each now constitutes a distinct incumbency. The site for Willowfield church, and glebe-house, were munificently contributed by Mr. William Mullan, of Willowfield, an ex-mayor of Belfast, free of any expense.

Originally Ballymacarret was a Union comprising the three parishes of "Knock, Breda, and Kirdonnell." Subsequently the two former were united into the parish of Knockbreda, at the Restoration of Charles II., and "Kirdonnell" is now the parish of Dundonald.\*

The Buildings in Ballymacarret of a public nature are the Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches and a small Roman Catholic Chapel, together with the extensive iron foundry of the Messrs. Coates, the spinning mills of the Messrs. Moreland, the Owen O'Cork mill, and the stations of the railways of Downpatrick, Donaghadee, and Bangor, as well as the very extensive artificial manure and felt works, of the Messrs. Ritchie and Company, the great ship-building yard of Messrs. Harland and Wolff, the plant and flower nursery of Mr. M'Duff, a seedsman and florist in Belfast, and the artificial manure factory of Mr. Scott, and two extensive rope works.

One of the most curious pieces of antiquity in the County, might have been seen in Ballymacarret, a few years since, viz. the remains of a paved road, which existed prior to the building of the original Long bridge, over the Lagan, leading to a ford across the river, at a place called Gooseberry Corner, from which point a number of similar roads diverge to Castlereagh and Comber, whilst another passed through Strandtown, leading to Holywood, Donaghadee, and other places in that direction. A map of these ancient roads

\* Ord. Survey, Sec. v.

Reeves, page 2.

Report of Ecclesiastical Commrs., p. 110.

Ulster Inquisition, No. 2, Jac. I, 104, Car. Down.



made by Mr. Frazer, formerly surveyor for the County of Down, exhibited their course converging at the one spot on the Lagan, opposite the old castle, but on recent examination of the place, it appeared that they had all been removed, in the construction of new streets.\*

In 1672, grants in fee-farm of the townland of "Balle mac-carrett, alias Ballincrat," were made by the Earl of Clanbrassil, to Thomas Pottinger, with all emoluments, immunities, rents, reservations, and remainders, and also the corn-mill called "Owen O'Cork mill," but Mountpottinger, the family seat, has long given place to modern buildings.

Sir Henry Pottinger, son of Eldred Curwen Pottinger, was born at Mountpottinger, in 1791, and having been educated at the Belfast Academy, under Dr. Bruce, he left home for India, at an early age. He attained great celebrity as a diplomatist, and was created a Baronet for his services in the East, after his return from Scinde in 1839. In 1841 he proceeded to China, where he brought our hostilities with that empire, to a close, and a treaty of peace was signed soon afterwards. In 1843, he was appointed Governor-General and Commander-in-chief of Hong Kong.

Sir Robert Peel, in passing on him a very high eulogium, expressed his regret, that custom alone prevented his receiving the thanks of Parliament for his services.

The Pottingers were descended from an old English family, settled in Berkshire, from the time of the Conquest, and a branch afterwards emigrated to Ireland.

The representative of the family in 1661, was the first sovereign or chief magistrate of Belfast.

He was sheriff of the County when King William III. landed, and Edward Pottinger, his brother, who had conveyed the King to Ireland, was soon afterwards lost at sea, with all his crew.

The White Church, now Shankill parish, contained the town of Belfast. At the dissolution, the rectory was appropriate to the Abbey of St. Patrick in Down, and it was, with other property,

\* Printed papers and letters of Mr. T. Kennedy Lowry to the Author.

leased to the Earl of Kildare, from whom the rectory passed to Sir Arthur Chichester, ancestor of the present Marquis of Donegal.

The town of Belfast, united by the Queen's and Albert Bridges, to Ballymacarret, and forming a part of the Borough of Belfast, here demands a passing notice.

At the period of the Reformation, the parish of Shankill Seancill, or old Church, contained six Chapels, and it is thus referred to in the Terrier :—" Ecclesia de St. Patricii de Vado albo, the Prior of Down hath it, six alterages, and the Church is called Shankill. The Vicar pays in proxies 10s., in refection. do., and in synodals, 2s.—in all 22s."\*

The Blackstaff river in this parish, is the Owen varra of old.

Prior to the erection of the first bridge, the communication across the river Lagan, between Down and Antrim, was maintained by means of a ferry, and ancient ford, from which Belfast derives its name, Bealfarset, the Bel or ford of the farset. It was called by the old Irish authorities Belfeirsde, *i. e.*, the ford of the fearsad, or as pronounced farsad, bel in Irish implying a ford, and fearsad, a sandbank, usually formed, as in this instance, by the opposing currents of tide and stream.†

Mr. Pinkerton has found Belfast mentioned in a document of the sixteenth century as Kilferest Church, *i. e.*, the Church of the Ford.

The old Ford of Belfast was replaced, in 1682, by the Long Bridge, although the ford was only gradually removed, and not entirely until a recent period.

Harris describes the bridge of Belfast, as one of the most stately in the kingdom, having 21 arches, of which 18 were on the Down, and three on the Antrim side, the channel, dividing the two counties, running through the middle arch. The foundation of this bridge was laid about 1662, but not completed until the Revolution, at a cost stated variously at eight and twelve thousand

\* Reeves, p. 184.

† MS. Notes on the Topography of Belfast, by Mr. Charles W. Brett.

pounds. In 1692 seven of the arches fell, having been shaken by the transit of Duke Schomberg's heavy cannon, but the breach was soon made good. Before its erection the nearest bridge was Shaw's bridge, three miles higher up the river.

The parish of Killaney, of which the Marquis of Downshire was formerly patron, contains a population of 815 persons. At the dissolution, the rectory was appropriate to the Abbey of Movilla.

The derivation is Cell Eithne, or Ethnea's Church.

The church, a neat stone building, was recently erected, with a glebe-house attached.

Killaney, in the inquisitions, is termed variously Killenny, Anaghalone, and Anaghdoloun. The ancient church-yard is near Lough Henney, but there are no remains of any buildings.

There is a Presbyterian meeting-house in the parish.

Kilmood was the ancient Kilmode, and at the dissolution, the rectory, then termed Kilmodemanagh, was appropriate to the Abbey of Comber.

The present church is erected on the site of the old one.

The parish of Kilmood has a population of 1514 persons.

Many fir, oak, and beech trees of very large dimensions have been found in the bogs of this district, some of the oaks being thirty feet in girth, and still undecayed.

The only mansion of importance is Florida Manor, a handsome structure, situated in a well-wooded demesne.

There is a court-house, in which court-leets and courts-baron were held by the seneschal of the manor, which, in 1798, raised a corps of yeomanry, in defence of the crown.

The family of Gordon is of ancient Scotch lineage.

The parish of Tullynakill derives its name from Tulaigh na cille, *i. e.*, the hill of the church. The population is 912, in addition to which there are 98 residents in the village of Ardmillan. In some of the extensive lime quarries, in this parish, fossils occur in abundance, and there are also some large brick and tile works, on the estate of Mr. Samuel Murland.

There was formerly a manor court with extensive jurisdiction, but it has long fallen into disuse.

Some remains of the old church, built in 1636, are still visible.

This parish is called Ballindrain, alias Magheoe, in the Ulster Visitation Book, of 1622, and in the Taxation in the King's Book, (1616), it is styled "*Maneriae, villae et terre de Iland McKee.*"

The modern church, a small but neat building, near Ardmillan, has a square tower, having angular abutments, terminating in pinnacles. The cemetery is adjacent, and within it are the remains of the old church. The new church, of which the patronage was in the bishop, was erected in 1825.

There are some very interesting ecclesiastical antiquities in the Island of Mahee, which is situated in this parish.

Dr. Reeves says, "Nedrum is the *n' Oendrium* of the Irish annalists, the *Nendrum* of the *Acta Sanctorum*, and the *Neddrum* of the *Monasticon.*" Mahee, the name by which it is now known, is a corruption of *Mochaoi*, and is derived from the saint of that name, the founder and patron of the church, who died in the year 497.

The church of Nendrum was founded, soon after the introduction of Christianity into Ireland, about the year 450, and was early selected as an episcopal seat, as appears from the *Annals of the Four Masters*, in which the deaths of S. Cronan, styled the Little Bishop, and of several others, are recorded.

We do not find any mention of it, after the year 976, until 1178, when the abbey was restored, and largely endowed as an "affiliation of a religious house by John de Courcy, Roger de Dunesford, and others." Its existence, as a priory, does not appear to have continued long, for it is simply termed "*Ecclesia de Nedrum*" in 1365, and in 1450 it is expressly referred to as a parish church. At the Reformation the bishop was seised of the "*Island Magee,*" and the four adjacent islands of Scattrick, Ranish, Trasnagh, and Reagh. In 1617, it was found that the manor of Ballydrune, *alias* Island Maghee, was the ancient inheritance of the Bishop of Down, from which "the sept Slutt MacHenry Kelyes did lately

expulse and disseise him." The islands just mentioned, although at the opposite side of the Lough, are in the parish of Ardquin.

The original church was no doubt formed of timber, and in its construction Mochoe personally took part, as appears from the Calendar of O'Clery. "It was this Mochee who went, in company with seven score men, to hew planks, for the purpose of erecting a church, and he was himself engaged in doing the work in common with others." A curious picture of those primitive times. The wooden edifice was subsequently superseded by a more permanent structure, and some traces of the foundations yet remain. The walls were about three feet thick. The ruins of a round tower may also still be seen, with traces of a triple cashel, by which it was surrounded.

The parish of Killinchy, Cill Inse, the Church of the Island, contains (including some islands in Lough Strangford), 4851 persons.

The principal houses in the parish are Ardview, the residence of Mr. Potter, Hollypark, the property of the late Mr. Johnston, who was of the same family as Sir William Johnston, of Gilford, and the Rectory, recently occupied by the late Hon. and Rev. Henry Ward, a member of the Bangor family.

Near the remains of Ralloo Fort, many coins, of King John, and other monarchs, were found some years ago. In times long gone, there was a castle at Ringhaddy and another on the island of Scatrick, which were both important places of defence.

The ancient castle of the great family of Whyte stood on the site of Killinchy fort.

Near the church is the tomb of an ancient family named Bruce. There are a post-office, constabulary barracks, and an episcopal, and two Presbyterian churches, in the parish.

At the White Rocks, on Lough Strangford, there is a small but good harbour, for vessels not exceeding eighty tons burthen.

On the shore of the lough, at Ringhaddy, there is an oyster fishery, long noted for its produce, although inferior to the oysters of Carlingford, Redburn, or Carrickfergus.



The present church, a large and handsome edifice, with a square embattled tower, was built in 1830, partly by subscription, at a cost of £900. Standing on a lofty hill, it is a conspicuous object from all directions.

The glebe-house is large and commodious, and the patronage was, alternately, in the hands of the Earl of Carrick, and Viscount Bangor. In the Taxation, it is styled the Church of Kilwyinchi, *i. e.*, the Church of the Island, from Cill, a church, the C in this and all other Irish words being pronounced as K.\*

In this parish was the Church Dramcro, now the townland of Drumreagh, which contains an ancient burial-place called Kilkeeran, which is almost exclusively used by the Roman Catholic inhabitants of the district.

The Church of Rencady is now Ringhaddy, which was originally an island, and some ruins are still to be seen.

In the townland of Rathgorman, about one mile west from Ringhaddy, there was a chapel, a small portion of which is still in existence. The castle of Rathgorman was an appanage of the Whyte family.

The parish of Bangor, anciently the church of Bangoure, contains a population of 7175 persons, including 106 residents in Crawfordsburn, 138 in the small town of Conlig, 149 in Groomsport, and 2506 in the township of Bangor. The name signifies pointed hills or pinnacles (Beannchair).

The first ploughing-match in Ireland took place in this parish in 1816, through the exertions of the late Mr. Cleland, of Rathgael.

A small bog formerly existed in the townland of Baloo, in which many years since were found the skeletons of seven elks. The head of one of these gigantic animals, measuring nine feet, with the antlers, from tip to tip, is preserved in the Royal Academical Institution at Belfast.

The principal mansions in the parish, are Clandeboye, Bangor

\* Reeves' Eccl. Hist., p. 9.



Castle, Balloo, Crawford's Burn, Carnaleagh, Rathgael, Ballykillare, Groomsport House, Glenghanna, and Portavo.

Clandeboyne is a handsome and spacious building, having been enlarged and much improved by the present Lord Dufferin. It stands in a highly-cultivated, and well-wooded demesne, within which there is a small chapel, where the services of the Episcopal Church are statedly performed.

There are some interesting relics in this chapel, including a fine specimen of the ancient Irish sculptured cross, which was procured from Bangor Abbey, and a curious slab obtained in Egypt, which formed a portion of the temple of Tirhakah, a king of Ethiopia, mentioned in the sacred writings.\*

In the demesne, there is a small lake, forming part of the valley through which, in times long gone, the sea is stated to have flowed from Strangford Lough, into the Lough of Belfast, thereby converting, what is now the peninsula of Ards, into an island.

Clandeboyne House contains a good collection of pictures, and an interesting series of sculptured slabs, and ancient inscriptions, procured by Lord Dufferin in Syria and Egypt. Clandeboyne is derived from the Irish clan aodh buide, *i. e.* the children of Hugh the Yellow.

A spacious drive, several miles in length, has been constructed from the hill of Conlig to Helen's Bay, at Grey Point, where his lordship proposes to build a marine town, and watering place, principally for the accommodation of the people of Belfast, and as he is anxious to afford accommodation to all classes, it is proposed that a number of the houses should be of moderate dimensions, in order that they may be let at reasonable rents.†

The family of Blackwood is of Scotch extraction, being of the same lineage as the Blackwoods, of Fife and Perth, who can be traced in the public records of Scotland, to a very early period. Their arms are preserved on the seal of Sir William Blackwood, of date 1584. A scion of the Fifeshire branch was John Black-

\* Second Book of Kings, chap. xix.

† *Belfast News-Letter*, 1872.

wood, of Bangor, born in 1591, who became possessed of considerable property in Ireland. He died in 1663, at Bangor, where the old Blackwood arms of Fifeshire may still be seen on his tombstone. His son and successor, John Blackwood, of Ballyleidy, was attainted by James II., as was also his grandson, John, who married Anne, daughter of Robert Hamilton, of Killyleagh, and was succeeded by his son, Robert, and James, a second son, was the ancestor of the Blackwoods, now the Prices, of Saintfield.

Robert Blackwood, above named, was created a baronet of Ireland in 1763, and was succeeded, in 1774, by his son, Sir John, who married Dorcas, eldest daughter and co-heiress of James Stevenson, of Killyleagh, a gentleman also of Scotch extraction, who had married Anne Stevenson, a cousin of James Hamilton, Earl of Clanbrassil and Viscount Clandeboye, and daughter and co-heir of Hans Stevenson, of Ballyrot, the only son of James Stevenson.

Anne Stevenson was a descendant of Archibald, the owner of Halcraig, in Scotland.

Sir John Blackwood was succeeded by his son, Sir James, and in 1818, on the death of his mother, Dorcas, who had been created Baroness Dufferin and Clandeboye, he succeeded to the barony, and also, in her right, he became senior representative, and heir-general, of the family of the first Earl of Clanbrassil. He was succeeded by his brother Hans, the third in succession, in the peerage, who had a very large family, including the late Hon. and Rev. William Stear Blackwood, Rector of Ballinderry, and of Armoy, in the County of Antrim, and of Robert Temple, who was killed at Waterloo.

Price, the fourth peer, who married a daughter of the celebrated Thomas Sheridan, died in 1839, and was succeeded by his son, Frederick Temple Blackwood, the present holder of the title.

In 1850, Lord Dufferin, then an Irish Baron, was raised to the peerage of the United Kingdom, as Baron Clandeboye, and in 1872, to the dignity of an Earldom, for his public services, by the

title of Earl of Dufferin and Clandeboye. In 1872, after resigning the Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster, he was appointed to the Governorship of the Dominion of Canada, an office which he at present holds, as well as that of Lord Lieutenant, and custos rotulorum of the County of Down. Earl Dufferin is senior heir general of the Hamiltons Earls of Clanbrassil.

In 1862 he married Harriett Georgina, eldest daughter of the late Archibald Hamilton Rowan, of Killyleagh Castle.

The Earl of Dufferin and Clandeboye is distinguished equally as a writer and a statesman, having filled, successively, various high official positions. He is also known as the writer of several literary works, including *Letters from High Latitudes*, and a *Treatise on Irish Emigration and the Tenure of Lands in Ireland*.

There is also a Baronetcy, in the Blackwood family.

Rear-Admiral, the Hon. Sir Henry Blackwood, the youngest son of the late Sir John Blackwood, Baronet, was born in 1772. Having entered the navy, he soon became distinguished, serving under Lords Howe, Keith, and Nelson, and bringing home the despatches after the battle of Trafalgar. He fought several gallant frigate actions, and the capture of the *Guillaume Tell*, by the British ships *Lion* and *Foudroyant*, was, in a great degree owing to his spirited assistance, in the *Penelope* frigate. In 1806, when his ship, the *Ajax*, was unfortunately burned, off the Dardanelles, he did not leave the vessel, until he saw every officer and man safe.

He was subsequently appointed Captain of the fleet, created a Baronet in 1819, and afterwards nominated a Knight Commander of the Bath, and then one of the Grooms of his Majesty's bed-chamber. He died at Clandeboye, at the house of his brother Lord Dufferin.

His son and successor, Sir Henry Martin Blackwood, died unmarried in 1851.

Glenghanna, near Groomsport, was the residence of the late Baroness Dufferin, but it is at present occupied by Mr. Andrew Cowan, formerly of Ballylintogh House, near Hillsborough.

Bangor was at one time a seat of the Hamiltons, Lords Clande-

boye, one of whom was subsequently created Earl of Clanbrassil. It afterwards came into the possession of Lord Viscount Ikerrim, in right of his mother Margaret and Anne, the wife of Mr. Justice Ward, who were co-heiresses of James Hamilton, Esq. It is now the property, in moieties, of Viscount Bangor, and Mr. Robert Edward Ward.

At an early day the residence of the Lords of the soil was at Castle Hill, near Bangor, but it was replaced by a more modern structure which has, in turn, been succeeded by the mansion of Bangor Castle, a large and handsome building in the Elizabethan style, erected by Mr. Robert Edward Ward, the present owner of the property, who is the son of Edward Michael Ward, a grandson of the first Viscount Bangor. Mr. Ward is married to Harriett, fourth daughter of the late Hon. and Rev. Henry Ward, of Killinchy.

Two distinguished families, viz., Hamilton and Blackwood, have borne the title of Lords of Clandeboye, both being intimately connected with Bangor, and holding prominent positions in the County of Down, for many years. It was first borne by the Hamilton family, a race of ancient and distinguished Scotch descent, springing from the same stock as the Earls of Clanbrassil, and Viscount Limerick, who derive from Thomas Hamilton, of Raplock, son of the Lord of Cadzow. In tracing this pedigree, we may state that the Rev. Hans Hamilton, Vicar of Dunlop, in Ayrshire, had five sons, the eldest of whom Sir James of Killyleagh, was afterwards created Baron Clandeboye, who had a son, and grandson, Earls of Clanbrassil, with the last of whom the title became extinct, when the estates devolved on his sister Anne, who married the Earl of Roden.

Another son, William of Bangor, had issue, James, who was killed at the battle of Blackwater, and his son James of Bangor, married the Hon. Sophia Mordaunt, daughter of Viscount Avalon, and sister of the Earl of Peterburgh. His daughters were Anne Catherine, who married Michael Ward, father of Viscount Bangor and Judge of the King's Bench in 1727, and Margaret, who married Thomas Viscount Ikerrim. William of Bangor had a

daughter married to Vere Essex Cromwell, the fourth Earl of Ardglass, Viscount Lecale, and the seventh Baron Cromwell. At his death in 1667, the Earldom and Viscounty expired, and the Barony devolved on Elizabeth, who became Baroness Cromwell, and first married Edward Southwell, and secondly Nicholas Price, whose only son, General Price, was the ancestor of the Price family.

In a volume termed *Antiquitates Christianæ*, in the possession of Lord Bangor, written by Sir J. Taylor, is the following entry, referring to the domestic history of Lady Sophia Mordaunt—"I was married on August 22nd, 1687. James Hamilton was born on August 21st, 1688. Sophia Mordaunt."

Portavo House, between Bangor and Donaghadee, one of the mansions of Mr. David Stuart Ker, of Montalto, was burnt down many years ago, and has not been rebuilt. At the time Harris wrote he refers to Portavo as "the habitation of James Ross, Esquire."

Crawfordsburn House is beautifully situated on the western shore of Belfast Lough.

The estate of Crawfordsburn came into the Crawford family by purchase, from Lord Clanbrassil. A daughter, third in descent from the original proprietor, married Mr. William Sharman, of Moira Castle, to whom the estate passed in virtue of his marriage, when he assumed, by royal license, the name and arms of Crawford.

In the time of Harris, Crawfordsburn was occupied by Mr. John Crawford, and it is still the residence of his descendants.

The family of Crawford are of Scotch lineage. The late Mr. Sharman Crawford, for many years M. P. for Rochdale, was succeeded by his son, the present Major John S. Crawford, whose brother, Mr. James S. Crawford, is one of the representatives for the County of Down. The proprietors of Crawfordsburn have been in succession, William, the original purchaser, John, James, John, Mabel Fridiswid, who married Mr. William Sharman, and John Sharman Crawford, the present owner.



Carnaleagh, properly written Carnanleagh, is situated between Grey Point and Crawfordsburn, and Carriganliath, implying the little grey rock, gives its name to the adjoining lands.

Rathgael House, the residence of Mr. Rose Cleland, is built on the fort of Rathgael, the largest of twenty-five similar structures in this parish. It extended over two acres, and was encompassed by a double vallum, or fosse. Rathgael signifies the fort of the stranger. The first Sunday-school in Ireland was established at Rathgael, in 1788.

Groomsport House, belonging to Major Percival Maxwell, is situated near the village of that name.

Harris alludes to Groomsport as the improvements of John Maxwell, Esq., and "near to them, a kay, sheltering boats and small craft, and having a fine landing bay, called Ballyholme Bay."

It was here Duke Schomberg landed, on the 13th of August, 1669, with an army of ten thousand men, and he was soon afterwards created Earl of Bangor. King William followed him to Ireland in the next year, and landed at Carrickfergus, which had surrendered to Schomberg.

There is a neat church near Groomsport, which was a perpetual curacy in the patronage of trustees.

The village of Groomsport, sometimes termed Graham's port, is, as suggested to me, by Lord Dufferin, in all likelihood, of Scandinavian origin, and might, perhaps, be correctly written Grimsport.

The town of Bangor situated on Carrickfergus Bay, termed by Dr. William Boate the "Haven of Knockfergus,"\* is a place of great antiquity, but it has greatly increased in extent in the last half century. Many good houses have been built, a number of them being occupied by families resorting to the place, for the purpose of sea-bathing, which may here be enjoyed in perfection, as there is pure water and a good beach. The harbour is commodious, and there is a convenient pier, on which more than £5,000 have been recently expended by the proprietors.

\* Natural History of Ireland, anno 1726.



Bangor, although not, at any time, having a very extensive trade, had formerly a custom-house, which has long ceased to exist, and considerable quantities of fine linen were manufactured in the neighbourhood.

At present the exports are principally limited to cattle, and the imports to timber, coals, and iron.

The public buildings are the Episcopal and Presbyterian churches, with a small Roman Catholic chapel, at a short distance from the town. There are also a parochial, and an infant school, and a dispensary. The first Presbyterian meeting-house was built in 1650, and replaced by a new erection in 1831, and the second was built in 1829. The Primitive and Wesleyan Methodists have also places of worship here.

The Town Improvement Act of 1854 is in operation, and commissioners are elected under its provisions. Public pumps have been erected, and the streets lighted with gas.

Bangor, in the time of Harris, had only 200 houses, which, in 1831, had increased to 563. In ancient times the borough included the town, and a small landed property of the Corporation, the rental of which amounted to £52, and was appropriated to public objects of utility. Bonnivert, in a quaint description of his journey, to join the troops of King William III., in 1690, adverts to Bangor as "the village of Bungar," as well as to "Donahadee," "the Coppler Islands," and "Garanbane," in the vicinity of which the army of Schomberg was then encamped. He also refers to the old road from Belfast to Holywood, which is still known as King William's road.

Bangor was constituted a borough by James I., in 1613, and in 1615, it was destroyed by fire. The Corporation consisted of a Provost, twelve free burgesses, and an unlimited number of free-men. Power was given to the Corporation to hold a court on every Saturday, the Provost presiding, and to establish a weekly market on Tuesday, and a fair on the 11th day of November, and 1st day of May, annually. The Corporation returned two members of Parliament, up to the period of the Union, and when the fran-

chise was abolished, the money voted as compensation, amounting to £15,000, was awarded in moieties to Henry Thomas, the then Earl of Carrick, and the trustees of the estate of Nicholas, Viscount Bangor.

Bangor owes its principal celebrity to the abbey, and celebrated schools, established there in very early times. This great abbey was founded by St. Congal, who was born of a noble family in Ulster, in 555, for a brotherhood of Canons-regular, and its establishment led to the erection of the town, if, indeed, one did not previously exist. Some time after the foundation of the abbey, a school was established, under the direction of St. Carthagus, which, in after times, became one of the most celebrated seminaries in Europe; and it is alleged, that when Alfred the Great founded or restored the University of Oxford, he procured at Bangor, professors for the schools which he had established. The abbey was subsequently destroyed by the Danes, and in the ninth century, it suffered severely from an incursion of that fierce and barbarous people, in which the abbot and nine hundred monks are reported to have been slaughtered.

In 1125, the abbey was rebuilt by Malachi O'Morgair, who died in 1148. This prelate erected a stone oratory, alleged by St. Bernard, but erroneously, to have been the first building constructed of that material in Ireland. A very small portion of the ruins of the abbey still remain, and the traces of the foundation show that the structure was of vast extent. Indeed, it must necessarily have been so, if the statement, that it accommodated two or three thousand monks, be authentic.

In 1469, the buildings had fallen into decay, and, in consequence, the Roman Pontiff transferred the abbey from the care of the Regular Canons to the Franciscans, who continued to hold it up to the period of the dissolution. It was afterwards seized by the O'Neills, but, being forfeited, by the rebellion of Con O'Neill, it was subsequently granted by James I. to Sir James Hamilton. Amongst eminent scholars of the abbey in the seventh and eighth centuries were Columbanus, sprung from a noble family in Leinster,

a poetical and theological writer, and the founder of Bangor in Britain, as well as of other monasteries on the Continent, Virgilius, said to be the glory of Irish literature, very eminent as a scholar, and Sedulius Scotigera, termed Secundus, whose writings were remarkable for their opposition to the high superiority, claimed by the Pope.

Gallus, or Gall, a native of the County Down, erroneously represented as a Scot by Merle D'Aubigne, was also educated at Bangor, and became very eminent as an ecclesiastic. He finally settled in Switzerland, where he died.\*

Albinus and Clement Erigena were professors in the Universities of Paris and Pavia, respectively, and John Erigena, who wrote against the doctrine of Transubstantiation, was appointed to a professorship in the University of Oxford, by Alfred the Great.

The ancient church of Bangor, "*Ecclesia Bennachorensis, fundata per Comgallum*," was in the rural deanery of Blaethwyce, and from the most remote period considered to be a part of the civil territory of the Ards.†

The site of the church was within the precincts of the old abbey in 1623. It was built in 1617, and a steeple was added in 1693, when the church was repaired by James Hamilton, the then lord of the soil. It was subsequently beautified by his widow, Sophia Mordaunt.‡

In 1832, the old church was taken down, and a new one erected, at the cost of the parishioners, and landed proprietors of the district.

There is a good glebe-house, closely adjoining the church, the patronage of which, before the disestablishment, was possessed, in turn, by Lord Bangor, and Mr. Robert E. Waid.

Many of the tombstones in, and around the old church, were carefully preserved, and may yet be seen, interesting from their dates, and quaint inscriptions, some of them composed in that

\* *Belfast News-Letter*, 1872.

† Reeves' *Antiquities*.

‡ Reilly's *Harris*, p. 61.

doggrel rhyme, which found favour in the sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. The stone bearing the date of erection of the "steepel" has been set into the wall of the present church, to the left on entering.

THIS  
STEEPEL  
WAS RAISED ANNO 1693,

the churchwardens of the time, being Mr. Blackwood, and Mr. Cleland.

The memorials above referred to were numerous, but we can here only advert to a few of them.

One of the oldest existing monuments is that of John Gibson, the first Dean of Down, which was rebuilt into the wall of the new transept about 1840.

"His maiestie" referred to in it was King James I.

HEIR · LYS · BELOVE · ANE · LEARNED · AND  
REVERAND · FATHER · IN · GODES · CHVRCH  
MESTER · HON · GIBSON · SENCE · REFOR  
MACIONE · FROM · POPARY · THE · FIREST  
DEANE · OF · DOVNE · SEND · BY · HIS · MAIES  
TIE · IN · TO · THIS · KINGDOM · AND · RECEVED  
BY · MY · LORD · CLANABOY · TO · BE · PREAC  
HER · AT · BANGOR · AT · HIS · ENTRY · HAD · XI.  
COMMVNICANTES · AND · AT · HIS · DEPAR  
TOVR · THIS · LYFE · 23 · IVNE · 1623 · LEFT · 1200  
BEING · OF · AGE · 63 · YEARS · SO · CRYST · VAS  
HIS · ADVANTAGE · BOTHE · IN · LYFE · AND · DEATH

Several members of the Dufferin family, Provosts of Bangor, were buried in the vault, at the back of the old church.

"John Blackwood," churchwarden, at the time of the raising of the steeple, is buried here, and close beside is the grave of James Hamilton, Provost of Bangor.

HERE \* LYES \* THE \* BODY \* OF \* IAMES  
 HAMILTON \* MERCHANT \* SOMETIME  
 PROVEST \* OF \* BANGOR \* WHO \* DEPARTED \* THIS \* LYFE .  
 THE \* 21 \* OF \* IANWAR \* 1649.

DEATH \* LAYD \* HIM \* LOW \* WHO \* WAS \* OF \* LATE  
 THE \* PROVOST \* OF \* THIS \* CITIE \* STATE  
 WHO \* SO \* BECOMINGLY \* HIS \* STATION  
 ADORNED \* IN \* HIS \* GENERATION  
 WHO \* SO \* DID \* LIV \* APROVED \* OF \* AL  
 A \* THING \* WHICH \* DOTH \* TO \* FEW \* BEFAL  
 AND \* SOME \* MAY \* SAY \* HE \* HAD \* AN \* HEART  
 MOST \* CHEERFVLLY \* FOR \* TO \* IMPART  
 TO \* THOS \* IN \* DISTRES \* SO \* THAT \* THEY  
 FROM \* HIM \* REIOYCE \* WENT \* AWAY.

Another monument is to the memory of Captain Colville, who commanded the "private ship of war Amazon," which was wrecked near Bangor, on the 25th of February, 1780, when all on board perished. His headstone bears a quaint inscription, with a device representing a cannon, and several nautical instruments.\*

Christian Conarchy was born near Bangor, and died in 1186. He was the first abbot of Mellifont, and was subsequently consecrated Bishop of Lismore, and appointed the Pope's Legate in Ireland.

William Hamilton, a poet of considerable genius, was also a native of Bangor. His poems were printed in Edinburgh, after his death, in 1760.

The possessions of the abbey were very extensive, as appears from an inquisition taken in the reign of James I., when it was found that the last abbot, William O'Dornan, in the thirty-second year of Henry VIII.'s reign, was possessed of thirty-one townlands, in the Ards and Upper Clandeboye, as well as the Grange of Earbeg in the County of Antrim, the two Copeland Islands, three

\* *Belfast News-Letter*, 1872.

rectories in Antrim, and three in Down, the tithes of the Island of Rathlin, and a townland in the Isle of Man, called Clenanoy. This last was held by the abbot on the condition of his attending on the King at certain stated times. From a valuable manuscript volume, obligingly submitted to my examination, by Mr. T. B. Houston of Orangefield, it appears by an inquisition taken in the reign of James I., at Downpatrick, in 1623, that thirty-three townlands, at that time, belonged to the abbacy of Bangor, together with the Church and Chapel of Cregevada, the tithes of five other possessions, and the Church and Chapel of Holywood, and five townlands. To these were added the Church or rectory of Ballelaghan, in Lecale, the tithes of Balleingeegan, and Corbally, the advowsons of the vicarages, in all the Churches and lands aforesaid, as well as the tithes of all sorts of fish, taken and landed on the south side of the Bay of Knockfergus, from the Copeland Islands to the ford of Belfast. The ferry between the Down and Antrim coast, was also claimed as an appendage of the abbey.

The celebrated antiphonary of Bangor, an ancient, and curious Book of Anthems, written in Latin, is now preserved in the city of Milan.

It contains twelve hymns, with nineteen collects for canonical hours, fifty-one occasional prayers, ten quatrains of versicles, together with the creed and Lord's Prayer, two collects, sixteen occasional anthems, and a poem in commemoration of the abbots of Bangor.

Five monasteries, viz., Bangor, including Holywood, Movilla, Grey Abbey, Black Abbey, and Cumber, with their possessions, after the forfeiture, subsequent to the rebellion of Con O'Neil, were assigned to Sir James Hamilton, and Sir Hugh Montgomery, from whom they passed in part to the Mount Alexander family, and thence to the Marquis of Londonderry.

The Copeland Isles in the parish of Bangor, were so called from a family of the name of Copeland, who anciently settled there, but the only memorial of them now remaining is the designation of an adjacent townland, on the mainland. The Copeland Isles are



three in number, viz., the Big or Copeland Island, Cross Island, and the Mew Island. A sound exists between the islands and the main, but at low ebb, there are only ten feet water, on a rock, called the Deputy Rock.

The ruins of an old church and cemetery still remain on Copeland Island, to the westward of which is a long ledge of rocks, called "Kaddy Karne."

A narrow channel between the Mew and Cross Islands, is not navigable. On the east side of the Copeland Island, there is a ledge of rocks extending above two cables' lengths, to the eastward, and there is another extending from the Mew Island to the westward.

Half-way between the sound of Copeland, and Cross Island, is a small rock called the Pladdins, over which, with common spring tides, there are three or four feet of water. Between the Cross and Mew Islands is the outer sound, about a mile broad, with a depth of from seven to eight fathoms of water.

Cross Island, on which the lighthouse stands, (hence occasionally called the Lighthouse Island), contains about thirty arable acres of ground, and is inhabited by a single family having charge of the lighthouse. There is a small boat harbour on the Island. The lighthouse is seventy feet high, to the lantern, and the walls are seven feet thick. The light can be distinguished plainly at a distance of ten miles, and it is visible from Port Patrick. The light is a fixed one, and a fog bell is attached.

The Mew Island has an area of eight acres, and it obtained its name from the vast number of sea mews which resort to it.

From the Copeland Islands, the coast trending to the southward, along the back shore of the Ards, to the entrance of the Lough of Strangford, abounds with dangerous rocks, comprising, Shaw's, Brown's, Black, Ocean, Long, Round, Butter Lump, Selk, MacCammon, Little Plow, Plow, Feathers, Scotchman, South, and the Angus Rocks, with a few others, which are laid down on the map. Some of these rocks, lying in the main line of the navigation and fisheries, annually occasion a disastrous loss of

life. Both the shores of Strangford Lough are of a rocky character. The principle rocks on the Dufferin side, are the North and South, Black Island, West, Boretree, Calf, Duck, Downey's, Gull, Lythe, Skart, Michael's, Craigaveagh, Darragh, and South Rocks, and on the Ards side, Turley, Whaup, Selk. Bullock, Newtown, Skarf, Bucky, Strife, Dullisk, South, Slane, Craiglee, Sconce, John's, and Walter, Rocks.

Two miles South of Donaghadee, says Harris, "there is a group of rocks called the Millisles, or by some the Plow, which are not dangerous, as they are well-known, and seen above water at half-tide."

The Lough of Belfast touches the shores of the parishes of Holywood and Bangor in the Barony of Lower Castlereagh, and has a depth of water, varying from five to twenty fathoms.

In ancient times the Mayor of Carrickfergus was admiral of all the coast, from Fair Head, in the County of Antrim, to "Bearlooms," near the Bar of Strangford, with the exception of the creeks of Belfast and Strangford.

The harbour of Belfast, originally a mere creek of the river Lagan, has become one of the finest in the United Kingdom, and there is now, from Garmoyle to the Queen's Bridge, a depth of eleven feet at low water, and twenty-three feet at high-water, of average spring tides, admitting vessels of 1500 tons register to moor at the discharging berths. There are two tidal docks, Prince's and the Clarendon, which are reserved for foreign shipping, but an Act of Parliament was obtained in 1854 empowering the commissioners to form a third and more extensive dock, with adjacent basins. On the County Down side of the river new and commodious graving and floating docks have been substantially constructed of the best red granite. The additional dock referred to has been completed and received the name of the Abercorn Dock, in honour of the distinguished nobleman, now representing the Queen in Ireland.

The lighthouses in Belfast Lough, exclusive of Mitchell's, are a fixed red light on Holywood bank, visible five miles off. There is

also a green light, fourteen feet high on the bank, and three more green lights nearer to Belfast, all of which should be left on the port-side in going up the lough. There is also a red light thirteen feet high, south-west of Stone Beacon, which is to be passed on the starboard side, when going into harbour.

The Port charges at Belfast are as follows:—Towage under 100 tons, 30s. ; 125 tons, 40s. ; 200 tons, 60s. ; 250 tons 70s., and higher tonnage in the same proportion, with 10s. additional, on foreign going vessels.

Pilotage under 20 tons, 4s. ; 30, 5s. ; 40, 8s. ; 50, 10s. ; 60, 12s. ; 70, 14s. ; 80, 16s. ; 90, 18s., and so on proportionably.

The Harbour and light dues range from 4d, and Ballast from 1s. 4d. upwards per registered ton.

The Quayage is 3d., and foreign quayage, 5d. per ton.\*

The parish of Newtownards has a population of 13,823 persons, of which the township, which is partly in Lower Castlereagh, and partly in Lower Ards, contains 9562.

The church of Newtowne, now Newtownards parish, was called variously Villa Nova, Ballynoe, and Ballylisnevan, and the rectory was appropriate to the Dominican Friary, founded here, in 1241, by Walter de Burgo, Earl of Ulster.

The highest ground in this district, except the adjoining hill of "Karnar Gar," (*i. e.*, Goat's mount) is Scrabo Hill, the "Knock Scraboh" of Speed's Map, on which several very valuable free-stone quarries have been opened. On its summit there is a handsome turreted memorial, visible to a great distance, erected from a design by Sir Charles Lanyon, in honour of the third Marquis of Londonderry.

The principal houses in, or connected with this parish, are Ballyalton House, and Milecross, the residence of the Rev. J. Bradshaw.

The family of Bradshaw or Bradshaig is of ancient English lineage.

\* Reeves, Ulster Journal of Archæology, vol. i.

In 1728 Mr. James Bradshaw visited Hamburgh, where he acquired an intimate knowledge of the diaper manufacture, having paid most earnest attention to the mode of fitting up looms, the selection of yarns, and the style of weaving. After gaining ample practical experience, he returned home in about two years, and getting looms constructed on principles, much superior to those then in use, he introduced a new system which greatly improved the diaper trade in his native country. He was born in the beginning of the eighteenth century, and died towards its close, at an advanced age, at his house at Milecross, where his son, the Rev. Joseph Bradshaw, who has effected great improvements on his property, still resides.

The mansion of Lord Londonderry is in the adjoining parish, but from his intimate connection with Newtownards, we shall refer to the genealogy here.

The Londonderry family claims a common ancestry with the earls of Galloway. Sir William Stewart, of Garlies, had a second son, Sir Thomas Stewart, of Minto, from whom descended John Stewart, of Ballylawn Castle, who came to Ireland on receiving a grant of land from James I., and settled in the County of Donegal.

The fourth, in lineal descent, from this gentleman, was Alexander Stewart, of Mount Stewart, whose son and successor, Robert, was elevated to the peerage as Baron Stewart, and subsequently created Viscount Castlereagh, in 1795, Earl of Londonderry, in 1796, and Marquis of Londonderry in 1816.

He was succeeded by his son, Robert, the second marquis, born in 1769, better known as the celebrated Lord Castlereagh, who was distinguished for his eminent abilities as a politician. He represented Great Britain at the Congress of Vienna, and having served the Crown in various high capacities, he died, without issue, at North Cray, in 1822, and is buried at Newtownards.

The title then descended to his brother, Charles William, the third marquis, who had been elevated to the peerage of the United Kingdom, as Baron Stewart, in 1814. He was the author

of some interesting works, and much distinguished as a cavalry officer, in the Peninsular War, subsequently filling the high office of ambassador to the Russian court. In 1823, he was created Earl Vane, and Viscount Graham, in the peerage of England, having large estates in that kingdom, in right of his wife.

His son, Frederick William Robert, the fourth marquis, filled several high official positions, and married Lady Elizabeth Francis Charlotte Jocelyn, daughter of the Earl of Roden, and widow of Viscount Powerscourt. Having died without issue, he was succeeded by George Henry Robert Charles William Vane Tempest, the fifth marquis, a son of Charles William, the third marquis, and his second wife, Lady Frances Anne Vane Tempest, only child and heir of the late Sir Harry Vane Tempest, Baronet.

Movilla, the ancient Maghbile, a monastery of Augustine Canons in this parish, was remarkable for its antiquity as well as for the richness of its endowments. It is said to have been founded in the year 550, by St. Finian, son of Ultach, king of Ulster. It was here that Columbkille, when on a visit with Finian, made a transcript of an illustrated copy of the four gospels, without the consent of that prelate, which led indirectly to his mission to preach the Gospel to the Picts of North Britain.\*

This abbey was situated about a mile from Newtownards, on the road to Donaghadee, and some of the ruins yet remain, the cemetery being used as a suburban burying place. At the time of the dissolution, the possessions of this abbey are thus enumerated in the Inquisition, to which we had occasion more than once to refer :—

“We find there was, and yet is, rectories impropriate, and other hereditaments, belonging to the same abbey or monasterie of Movilla, in the Great Ards, including the site and circuit of the abbey and twelve townlands, three of which are in Upper Claneboye, and the residue in the Great Ards. Also the Grange or Rectory of Derry, with the tythes of two townlands belonging

\* Ulster Inquis. Carol. I.



thereto, also the Grange or Rectory of Rowbane, with three townlands annexed thereto, the Grange and Rectory of B. drumrowan, *alias* Drumfynn, with the tythes of two townlands annexed, also the tithes of Carigogantelon, a mensal to the abbey, together with the whole tithes, whatsoever, of the lands of the Newtown, except the tithes of one townland, which belongeth to the Priory of Newton. Also the tithes and chapel tenures belonging to a chapel called Kiltonga, with the tithes of Kiltarnan and Ballyrogan, also the rectory impropriate of Drum, in the Lagan, whereunto belongeth two townlands, and the tithes of two other towns, in the territory of Slut Neales. Also the tithes of divers other towns and lands, in the County of Antrim, with the advowsons of all the vicarages of the said rectories. These were all granted by King James I. to Viscount Clandeboy, in fee for £3 3s. 4d., Irish money, by the year."\*

Another church, formerly existing in the parish of Newtownards, was Monketone, Monkstown, but the name is obsolete, and the site unknown. Possibly it may have been at the ancient burying-ground of Killysugan, in the grounds of Milecross, about a mile from the town, as it once contained a small chapel, or the name may have applied to the abbey church of Movilla.

In ancient times, a chapel called Carrigogantelan existed in this parish, and there is still a townland termed Craigogantlet, but the site of the chapel is unknown.

Another chapel, also now unknown, was that of Thalascueagh, or the Hill of Brien, to which two townlands were attached. The tithes belonged to the See of Down, and were leased to the Marquis of Londonderry, at a renewal rent of £2 8s. 2d., and renewal fines of £6 6s.

On the north side of the town is the Cell of Kiltonga, called in the Terrier, the Chapel of Killarneid, which had the two townlands of Ballyrogan and Killain belonging to it.

A convent of Dominican Friars was founded here by Walter

\* Terrier, 43, 44, 49. Reeves, p. 14. Montgomery MSS., p. 310.



de Burgh (some allege by the Savages), in honour of St. Columb, in which chapters of the order were held, in 1298, and 1312. At the time of the suppression, the convent was possessed of three townlands, which the last prior voluntarily surrendered to Henry VIII. These with the site were granted by James I. to Viscount Clandeboy, at the rent of 13s. 4d., current money of Ireland, and by him subsequently assigned to Viscount Montgomery, of the Ards. No vestige of this building now remains.

With reference to this structure the celebrated Father M'Cann exclaims—"the Dominican house was some years ago converted into a secular dwelling by Mogumrius, a Scotchman, [the first Lord Montgomery]. Such is the propensity of impious heretics, to obliterate all memory of what has been deemed sacred."

The present church, situated in the town, is a handsome structure, and it has been recently enlarged. It was erected at a cost of more than £5400, partly by gifts and loan, from the Board of First-fruits, the Marquis of Londonderry contributing about one-fifth of the entire cost. In the interior there are two handsome monuments, in memory of the first, and second Marquis of Londonderry, erected by Charles William, the third Marquis.

The old church was metamorphosed into a court-house, the dock now standing where the pulpit formerly stood, and the chapel, in which divine service had been latterly performed, was entirely demolished.

In this chapel, there lie the bones of the three first Lord Montgomeries, and the two first ladies of the name, and many other members of the same family. The spot of interment, near the south-east corner, is marked by three gilt coronets, over the entrance-door, which is still allowed to stand, with the following inscription—

"Take heed to thy foot  
When thou goest to this house."

The tombs of the Colvilles and the Stewarts were removed to the new church.

Near the centre of the town stands the lofty and beautiful

pedestal of an ancient cross, ornamented with armorial sculptures. It was defaced by the rebels in 1653, but restored by the inhabitants in 1666.

The "Lord Montgomery of the Ards," afterward created Earl of Mount Alexander, had a house in Newtown which was accidentally burned down in 1664, and a market-house, erected in early times, was also burnt down, in 1636, and a full description of that, which was built to replace it, has been given by Harris.

Various antiquities have been discovered in this parish, and amongst others, the head and horns of a moose deer, in the townland of Ballymagreechan. These are now in the Museum of Glasgow.

In 1824, a Highlander in good preservation, clothed in his native costume, was discovered in the bog of Loughrascoose, twenty-three feet below the surface. Part of his dress was perfect, but after exposure to the air, the body crumbled to dust.

By a charter of James I. a corporation, consisting of a provost, twelve free burgesses, and an indefinite number of freemen, was established in 1613. The provost was judge of the borough court, and clerk of the market, and he was chosen annually, from the free burgesses, on the Feast of St. John the Baptist, and sworn in, on that of St. Michael.

The public business was transacted by a quarterly court, consisting of twenty-three inhabitants, sworn by the provost to act as grand jurors, and also as a court-leet, in the election of the several officers under the corporation. They also exercised the power of making presentments to be levied for various purposes. The court is now only held annually. There was also a borough court of record.

The corporation sent two members to Parliament, up to the period of its disfranchisement. The local government is now under town commissioners. Burgesses are no longer chosen, nor has the corporation, since 1821, exercised any powers, except the holding of the quarter court by the provost.

The public buildings are a very commodious town-hall, erected

by the first Marquis of Londonderry, which stands in the square, nearly in the centre of the town, a court-house, gas-works, post-office and stamp-office, and the Belfast Banking Company has a Branch office in the town. There are besides the parish church, five neat and commodious Presbyterian churches, a Unitarian place of worship, Roman Catholic chapel, chapel for Wesleyan Methodists, one for Methodists of the New Connexion, and two Covenanting meeting-houses, a constabulary barrack, and the sub-inspector of the district resides here.

There are also a dispensary and union workhouse, with its attached infirmary and fever hospital.

To this list may be added several public schools, one national, and one supported principally, by the family of the Marquis of Londonderry. The model school is a large and handsome structure, and there is also a school on Erasmus Smith's Foundation, and a private academy.

The principal market is on Saturday, and very large quantities of fowl are purchased here, by the Belfast dealers, both for home consumption, and export, principally to Glasgow.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### Ancient Divisional Denominations.

THE ancient divisional denominations of the land in the county are to be collected from various sources, including the Crown Rental, of 1627, the Calendar to the Patent Rolls, copies of inquisitions held at different times, and especially the Book of Survey and Distribution, of James I.

The original Patent Rolls, under which the various properties were granted, may be seen in the Record Office, in Dublin, and I here take the opportunity of returning my thanks to Dr. Ferguson, the Keeper of the Records, and to Mr. Henessy, and the other officers of the establishment, for the facilities afforded me in procuring such information, as I required for the completion of the present work.

The Distribution and Survey of James I. is drawn up in tabular form, setting forth the denominations of the lands conveyed in the several grants, the names, and religious denominations of the owners and grantees, the extent of each property, classified as lands, unprofitable, and profitable, together with the mode of conveyance, whether by decree, certificate, or patent. On referring to the extent of the grants, it will be found that the great bulk of the land came into the hands of a few persons. Thus, in the barony of Kinelarty, the chief proprietors named in the Survey, are Walter Johnston, "Math. Ffoorde," Sir William Petty, John Bayly, Sir George Rawdon, Sir Robert Booth, the Lord Viscount "Clanneboye," and Sir. Lord Baron Mountnorris; in the barony of Lower Evagh, William Hill, Eliz. Hepburn, Coll. Hill, Lady Cosby,

Art Roe Magennis, Sir William Reeves, Lady Penelope Brookes, Michael Doyne, Sir Edward Trevor, John Magill, William Warring, Colonel Marcus Trevor, Sir Ffaithful Fortescue, Arthur Hill, and Major Edward Burgh, with a large extent of "Bipp.'s" (Bishop's) lands ; in the barony of Ards, Sr. James Montgomery and Hugh Lord Viscount Montgomery, William Muntgumerys, or Mountgumery, Henry Savage, John Echlin, Pat. Savage, James Lord Viscount "Clandeboyas," and certain Bishoplands ; in the Barony of Lecale, Thomas Lord Viscount Cromwell, of Lecale, "Earle' Killdare, George Russell, Robert Savage, Symon Jordane, Sir George Blundell, the Duke of York, Daniel Hutchinson, William Brett, Thomas Everard, Robert Hamond, James Audley, Nicho. Fitzsymons, and Bernard Ward ; in the Barony of Upper Evagh, Sir "Hanse" Hamilton, Wm. Hawkins, John Magill, Sir George Rawdon, Phillim or Phelim Magennis, "Sir Edward Trevers, Col. Trevers," Alderman Wm. Baker, Lady Terringham, Mrs. Bagnall Leeste, Lady Mary Crosby, M. Kinnahan, Arthur Hill, Joseph Deane, Coll. Hill, Grace Swift, Anthony Birchworth, Marke Trevers, John Magennis, M. Cusack, and Bernard Magennise ; and in the Barony of Castlereagh, Hugh, Lord Viscount Mountgomery, of Ards, Captain Geo. "Mountgomery," Sir Jas. "Mountgomery," Col. Arthur Hill, Edward, Lord Viscount Conway, Robert Warde, and James, Lord Viscount "Clanneboyas" ; and in Newry Lordship, Nicholas "Bagnall," Esq.

The letter of King James I., directing the enrolment of the following orders, is dated, 2nd August, 1617.

An order made by the Lord Deputy and Council, the 20th January, 1608, for dividing and settling the County of Iveagh, in the County of "Downe," whereby it is concluded and agreed, that thirteen of the principal "gents," nominated in the Schedule hereunto annexed, to be freeholders, shall from henceforth hold the lands to them allotted, in the said schedule of his Majesty.

SCHEDULE of the names of such persons, as are thought fit to be freeholders in the County of Iveagh, and also of such as are now freeholders in the said County, and "Killiwarlin," and of

the several lands appertaining to them, the denomination of which are also set forth in the schedule.

“Glassney M’Aughholly Magenise, Esq., is to hold to him, his heirs, and assigns for ever, the lordship of Clanconnell and Ballykeile, in the Lequirin, containing fourteen towns in Iveagh aforesaid.

Arte oge M’Glassney M’Augholie Magenese, gent., is in like manner to have chief four townes in the Lequirin.

Ever M’Phellimery Magenise to have the Castle and lands of Castlewilliam, with ten towns in Iveagh.

Ever M’Arte M’Rowrie Magenise to have Shanchall, containing twelve “townes.”

John Magenise, Corrorck, and Aghnemwillragh, and six “townes” and a half in “Claunawly.”

Arte oge M’Brian oge M’Brian M’Edmond Boy Magenise, the castle and towne of Brickland, and nine townes more in Loughbrickland.

Hugh M’Con M’Glassiny M’Genise, the town of Milton, and eight townes in Clanawly.

Murtagh M’Enaspicke Magenise, ten towns in Clanaggan.

Brian M’Hugh M’Agholie Magenise, seven and a half towns, in Mutnereddie.

Con Boy M’Phellym M’Hugh Magenise, eight towns, in Ballynecrosse.

Rowrie oge M’Rowrie M’Collo M’Magenise, Handmoile, and five towns.

Captain Edward Trevor, assignee unto Murtagh Modderagh M’Manus, six towns, parcel of Killmore.

All the above said persons are to hold these lands of the King, by knights service, in capite, paying annually 20s. for every town, which amounts in the whole to the sum of £110 Irish.

Brian M’Donell, M’Brian Magenise, four towns, parcel of Leighquirin, alias Leighquiverin.

Donell oge M’Edmond Boy Magenise, four towns, parcel of Leighquirin.



Glassney Roe Magenise, three towns.

Coconnaght O'Rory, six towns.

Shane M'Evard, four towns.

Brian M'Arte M'Ever Magenise, five towns.

Brian Carragh M'Brien Roe Magenise, three towns.

Ferdogh M'Phellim M'Prior, three towns.

Hugh M'Neece M'Rowry O'Roney, eight towns.

William Worsley, of Hallam, in the County of Nottingham, gent. six towns.

Shane O'Laghanan, three towns ;

to be held of Sir Arthur Magenise, Knt., in soccage, paying to the said Sir Arthur, £2 13s. 4d., Irish, for every townland, which amounts in the whole to £142 13s 4d.

“ Patrick M'Guivern, Shane oge O'Sheale, James M'Art M'Gilleduff, Patrick M'Art Magyn, Owen O'Roney, Patrick M'Donegan, Owen M'Donegan, Shane M'Briddie, Jenkin M'Briddie, are to have two towns each, and Shane oge M'Guiverin, Donell oge O'Sheill, Collo M'dermot M'Cormoke, Brian M'Entire, Nicholas M'Kewnan, Gilleduffe M'Brien, Jasper Kiers, Laughlin oge O'Fegan, Donell M'James M'Key, Patrick O'Masey, and Shane M'Brien, to have one town each ;

to hold of the Lord Bishop of Dromore, and to pay him 40s. for every town, amounting in all to £49 Irish, making £36 15s. sterling per annum.

Captain Edward Trevor is to have fourteen towns, and William Hallam, in the County of Nottingham, thirty towns, to hold of the Bishop of Dromore, and the latter to pay him, and his successors, £40 Irish, and the former to pay him 20s. 8d., for every townland, amounting in the whole to £10 13s. 4d.

The Lord Bishop of Dromore is to have in like manner, chief parcels or portions of Dromore, alias “ Ballymagalge, and Bally-enaries.”

The Lord Archbishop of Armagh is to have to him and his successors for ever, four towns.

Patrick M' Connor M' Kearney, is to have to himself, his heirs, and assigns, three towns, to hold

of the Lord Archbishop of Armagh, paying yearly, £6 Irish.

Arthur "Bagnall," Esq., is to have, in like manner, seven towns.

Sir Arthur Magenise of "Rathfriland," Knight, is likewise to have 132 towns, or denominations, to

be held of the King, by Knight's service, in capite, by one whole Knight's fee.

Brian oge M'Rowry Magenise is to have all the country or territory of Kilwarlin, except Tullyorny, and the towns passed to the said Brian M'Rowry, in his letters patent, amounting to fifty-five, all in the County of Down, at £20 Irish per annum.

The Vicar of the Church of Dromgath is to have to him, and his successors, the town of Edenteraghkurregh.

The Parson of "Sipatricke," in like manner, Carrowentample.

The Parson of "Clandallan," in like manner, Ballynegleragh, alias Tonnycremon.

The Parson of "Annaghclovan," in like manner, Lisnesleggan.

The Parson of "Dromaragh," in like manner, Dromaragh.

The Parson of Kilbroney, in like manner Levallystrade, alias Levallysrade, all in Iveagh aforesaid, and to be held of the King in Frankalmoyne.

Signed

THOMAS DUBLIN	Canc.	FRAN. AUNGIER.
THOMAS RIDGWAY		OL. ST. JOHN.
OL. LAMBERT		H. POWER."

On examination of the several ancient "towns," or denominations, which are referred to in the Book of Distribution, and the order under the King's letters, it appears, that the great majority of them corresponds (with slight variations in orthography) with the modern appellations, as a few instances will show. No one can fail to recognise in Magheredrill, Ringedufferin, Annakelt, Kynallin, Ballykeale, Gortmoyrey, Lissadine, Ballilantagh, Kirkes-

towne and Ratholpe, the names at present existing; and in not a few, no change whatever has been made in the orthography. For example, Lisnacree, Dunlady, Leitrim, Ardglass, Clogher, and Edentrillick, were then written, as they are at present. In others the orthography is so different that it is difficult and in some cases impossible to decide what modern districts they represent, whilst in a few cases the names have been changed altogether.

It is worthy of remark that with about half a dozen exceptions, including the names of Forde, Hill, Savage, Waring, Montgomery, Ward, and Echlin, little of the property specified in the patents of King James, now remains in the possession of the direct descendants of the original grantees.

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## CHAPTER XXXII.

Modern divisions into Townlands, and the derivation of the names.

THE smallest sub-divisions of the County (some quarter land excepted), are into townlands, a varying number of which are contained in every parish. These townlands are extremely different in extent, varying from a few to many hundred acres, and, with rare exceptions, their appellations are deduced from the Irish language. Each parish is made up of more, or fewer of these sub-divisions.

The townlands are very numerous, amounting to many hundreds, the names frequently commencing with various prefixes such as Baile (Bally) a town, Alt a height, Ath a ford, Drum a ridge, Lios or lis an earthen fort. Magh a plain, Rath a circular fort, Carraig a rock, Cill a church, Dun a fortified fort, Tulach (tully) a little hill, and Inis an island.

The derivations are interesting, and we therefore subjoin some specimens, with the interpretations attached, selected from different parts of the County.

<i>Name of Townland.</i>	<i>Irish Derivation.</i>	<i>Interpretation.</i>
Aghaderg	Ath dearg	Red ford
Ballykeel	Baile Caoil	Narrow town
Burren	Boirinn	Rocky ground
Ballyraver	Baile Ramhur	Richtown
Ballagbeg	Bealach beag	Small pass
Carnalbanagh	Carn albanach	Scotch carn
Carcullion	Carra chuillinn	Rocky land of the holly
Clogher	Clochar	Stony land
Culcavey	Cuilcaibhe	Angle of the long grass
Castlewellan	Castle Willin	Ullin's Castle
Dillin	Duibhlinn	Blackpool

<i>Name of Townland.</i>	<i>Irish Derivation.</i>	<i>Interpretation.</i>
Drumroneth	Drum Bronaighe	Bronaigh's ridge
Drumreagh	Drum reach	Greyridge
Dooley	Dub ath	Black ford
Drumalig	Drum a luig	Ridge of the hollow
Edentrillick	Eadan tri leag	Brae of the three stones
Edenderry	Eadan doire	Brae of the oakwood
Erenagh	Ergna	Noble
Feehan's Island	Fiodchaire	Woodland
Finnis	Fionnaís	White low land
Finnard	Fionn Ard	White hill
Gortnamony	Gort na mona	Field of the bog
Groomsport	Port a Giolla Ghruamdha	Gilgrom's port
Gartross	Gort Rossa	Ross's garden
Gransha	Grainseach	A grange
Glastry	Baile na glasraidh	Town of the herbs
Ganaway	Gainimheach	Sandy place
Growell	Grothal	Gravel
Glassdrumman	Glas dromann	Greenridge
Glastry	Baile na n glassraigh	Town of the herbs
Islenderry	Oilean a doire	Island of the Oak Wood
Imdel	Indeal	A limit
Islandbane	Oilean ban	White island
Kilmood	Cill Mhuaid	Mood's Church
Knockananny	Cnoc na n airneadh	Hill of sloes
Killough	Cill locha	Church of the Lough
Killeen	Coillin	A small wood
Knockbarragh	Cnocbarrach	Hill of the heifers
Kircassock	Corcachoga	Small morasses
Largymore	Leargaidh mor	Great hill side
Lisnagarvey	Lios na g cearbhach	Fort of the Gamblers
Lisbane	Lios Ban	White fort
Loughorne	Locheorna	Lake of Barley
Moneyreagh	Muine reach	Grey brake
Mullaghmore	Mullach Mor	Great hill top
Moygannon	Mag Geandinn	Gannon's plain
Ouley	Eochailidhe	Yew woods
Orlock	Or lag	Golden hollow
Portavogie	Port a bhogaigh	Bank of the bog
Portloughan	Phort lochans	Bank of the pool
Portavo	Port a bho	The Cows' port
Quilly	Coillidh	Woody
Ringcreevy	Roinn Craobhach	Bushy division
Raholp	Rath Cholpa	Colpas Rath
Ringmacilroy	Rinn Mhic giollar uaidh	MacGilroy's Point

<i>Name of Townland.</i>	<i>Irish Derivation.</i>	<i>Interpretation.</i>
Ringbane	Rinn ban	White point
Raffry	Rath fraidhe	Fry's fort
Rossglass	Ros glas	Greenwood
Skatrick Island	Sgath Dearg	Red Shadow
Skeagh	Sqeack	A white thorn
Sea fin	Suidhe fin	Finn's Seat
Tullylish	Tulaigh rathain	Hill of the Fort
Tara	Teamhair	A pleasant hill
Tullyherron	Tulaigh chaorthainn	Hill of the rowan tree
Tullycarn	Talagh ancairn	Hill of the Sepulchre
Tobercorran	Tobar Chorrain	Corran's well
Taughblane	Teach Blaain	St. Blann's house
Tollymore	Tulach Mhor	Great Hill
Unicarvel	Uaith ne Cearbhail	Carroll's Pillar.

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## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### Geology and Mineralogy.

THE numerous formations entering into the geological organization of the County of Down, comprise Bog alluvium, boulder clay, and various drift deposits, triasaic rocks, including the lower keeper, and bunter sandstones, permian beds, carboniferous and lower silurian strata, the cretaceous series, divided into upper chalk and green sand, lower lias clay, red marl, upper mottled sandstone, and conglomerate beds. The igneous rocks comprehend basalt, dolerite, felstone, porphyrite, trachyte, basalt, and quartziferous porphyry, felspathic ash, minette or mica trap, syenite, granite, diorite, and syenitic granite. The Silurian rocks, referable to the caradoc, or bala beds, of the Silurian district, in Wales, extend through the greatest part of the county, and especially its north-western district. These schistose formations in the north of the county, consist principally of micaceous, gray, purplish, and greenish gray grits, interstratified with flag and sandstones, conglomerates, gray, reddish, and green slates, with occasional bands of black carbonaceous shales; whilst the silurian rocks in the south-east, and central and western districts, extending from Ballinahinch, to the confines of Armagh, are pretty similar. These strata have suffered much from disturbance, their beds being so contorted, that they now dip at all angles, the strike being from S. E. to N. E., but it is difficult to ascertain their thickness, which amounts, in some instances, to several thousand feet.

A peculiar kind of silurian rock occurs at Ballygowan, near Saintfield, on the line of the railway, to which has been given

the distinctive name of Ballygowan Stone. It occurs in thick beds, and whilst it cleaves readily, it is very hard and close in the grain, and at the same time readily formed into any shape.

The post-pliocene, or drift deposits, include upper boulder clay, middle sand and gravel, with marine shells, and lower boulder clay or till, resting on various rocks. the middle sand and gravel, being a marine deposit, containing sea shells, in a fragmentary state, and the upper boulder clay being pretty similar to the lower. Many of the drift deposits, belong also, to the lower boulder clay, which to the depth of several feet, is of a light brownish colour. overlying a hard clay, of a blue tinge. This drift contains boulders and blocks, (some of them iceworn and scratched,) both of the local silurian grits, and of rolled lias, basalt, diorite, mica trap, and limestone, with pebbles of chalk and flint.

Amongst the largest erratic blocks or boulders in the county we may instance Sampson's stone, near Downpatrick, the Lee-stone, the Gray rock, and Dun Cow, near Ballywalter, Cloughmore, on Rostrevor Mountain, and the huge stone, on the shore, near Mountstewart.

In various places rounded hills, termed Eskers or Drumlins, have been formed by the drift, consisting in some districts, solely of rock, and in others of drift and rock combined. These eskers principally occur along the western border of the county, in the vicinity of the Maze Course, and some other places.

Boulder clay, the drift of which covers the most of the county, consists of a brown or gray clay, containing ice scratched boulders, fragments of basalt, silurian grit, sandstone, chalk, flints, mica schist, gniess, quartzite, and chrystalline limestone. Of the igneous rocks, dolerite, basalt, and basalt porphyry, are found in sheets, and dykes at Scrabo Hill, and Dundonald, overlying the triassic sandstones. The trap of Scrabo consists of largely crystalline dolerite, gradually changing into a coarse brownish sand. It usually occurs in bosses, but more commonly in the form of small dykes, cutting across the silurian rocks. These

dykes are very numerous in the Ards, and Lecale, and in the vicinity of Ardglass, Killough, and Portaferry. Dykes of basalt are also found traversing the granite and silurian strata. The term basalt indicates the compact varieties, and dolerite the largely crystalline granular kinds of rock, whilst the appellation basalt porphyry is applicable, where distinct crystals of felspar are distributed in a compact base.

Felstone occurs in dykes along the shore at Ballyhalbert, as well as minette and greenstone. Felstone is also abundant in the neighbourhood of Portaferry, and in a few other districts, but felstone, felspathic ashes, and minette, are so similar, that it is difficult to decide on their proper classification. They are mostly of a light gray, to a greenish gray colour. Quartz, porphyry, and minette, are found to the north-east of the granitic district. Trachyte porphyry, a rare volcanic rock, was first discovered in the townland of Ballyknock, near Hillsborough, by Messrs. Jukes, and Du Noyer, and (except at Tardree in Antrim,) it is not known to occur, elsewhere, in the British islands. It consists of a dull gray felsitic base, containing crystals of sanidine, and globules of quartz, and is overlaid by masses of boulder clay.

The dolerite, occurring at Scrabo, is a compound of labradorite, and hypersthene, similar in composition to the cliffs of Fair Head, in Antrim.

Diorite may be found about half way from Banbridge to Dromore, amongst the silurian strata. The diorites, a compound of felspar and horn blende, occur in considerable dykes and bosses.

All through the centre of the county, the rocks are in most instances glaciated, as shewn by their rounded, or planed, polished, and striated surfaces, or by their forming rounded, rocky bosses. These peculiarities are due to the action of the ice, whether in the shape of moving glaciers, on dry land, or of floe impelled by oceanic currents. With the exception of some patches near Bangor, which are composed of the newest tertiaries, the northern division of the county consists chiefly of

Palaeozoic rocks, and principally the Silurian slates, which form the elevated range termed the Holywood hills. On the south-west of Slieve-na-griddle mountain, a mass of rock approaching more nearly to syenite, than to any other rock, composed of a mixture of orthoclase, felspar and silica, interspersed with crystals of hornblende, protrudes through the Silurian beds.

No rocks, unmistakably referable to the Cambrian age, are met with in Down, but post-tertiary gravels, consolidated by carbonate of lime, in the shape of conglomerate, or pudding stone, occur along the shore, from Killard Point to Killough.

The calcareous lias, which makes a valuable lime, observed at Portrush, and various other parts of Antrim, has not, so far as I am aware, been observed in any part of Down. Deposits of estuarine clay have been formed at the upper extremity of Strangford Lough, and at Belfast, Holywood, and Bangor. One hundred species of fossils have been found in this formation, and duly catalogued.\* Raised seabeaches, containing the shells of the neighbourhood, may be seen near Annalong, and at Burr Point on the east coast of the Ards.

Granite of various ages, in different localities, is formed by the melting of grits and shales, into a sort of lava, its essential constituents being quartz, orthoclase, and black mica; oligoclase, hornblende, chlorite, and iron pyrites, being usual accessories. Granite varies considerably in compactness and colour. On Benraw, it is light gray, turning variously to a yellow, pink, or white hue. In the low ground to the east of Slieve Garra, and partly up its slope, the granite becomes syenitic, from the admixture of hornblende, in great abundance. In some places, as in the mountain of Slievanisky, the quartz and felspar are nearly absent, and the rock becomes almost black, from the dark colour of the hornblende, and mica. A great part of Slieve Croob is composed of granite, but its northern side and summit, with the adjoining summit of Monahoora, consist of lower

\* Guide to Belfast, p. 72.

Silurian rocks. Slieve Croob, on its easterly aspect, exhibits different varieties of syenite, some of them porphyritic, and very beautiful, cropping out at an elevation of 900 feet. Felspar porphyry occurs in the bed of the Finish, near Dromara, and also at Ballyroney, in a decomposing state.

All along the coast of Down, porphyry is abundant, St. Patrick's road, in Sheepland, affording one of the most remarkable specimens, running continuously, in a direction from south-west to north-east, being from eight to ten feet wide, and in some places 160 yards, in uninterrupted length. It has much the appearance of a road, having the ruts or marks of wheels upon it, with high, slaty rocks at either side. It differs from the rest of the basaltic rocks, in the neighbourhood, in running parallel to the stratification of the formation, in which it is imbedded, whilst the others take their course, from the land to the sea, at right angles to the strata. On the coast near Ardglass, in a portion of decomposed basalt, occurring in a creek, similar in formation to St. Patrick's road, a large quantity of olivine was discovered some years ago. The decomposed basalt has locally the name of lava.\*

Towards the south and south-west of the County, the granitic region fills up a space of about twenty-six square miles, occupying the parishes of Drumgooland, Drumballyroney, and Drumgath, and parts of the barony of Mourne, and of the lordship of Newry. It includes, within its area, the Mourne Mountains. The prevailing rock, in the whole range, is granite of various quality, and composition. Hornblende and primitive greenstone abound on the skirts of this district, and greenstone slate rests against the acclivities of the mountains. Mica slate has been observed only in one instance. The granite of Down is of a reddish colour, owing to the hue of the felspar entering into its composition, whilst the Dublin granite is destitute of hornblende, and its felspar is of a white colour.

\* Reilly's Harris, and Anderson, in the *Belfast Newsletter*, 1872.



In the granite of the Mourne range, rock crystals, with mica crystals, fine specimens of topaz, small reddish garnets, olivine, embedded in slaty rock, and beryls are occasionally found.\* The beryls, which have the property of cutting glass, are fully equal in lustre to those of Siberia. The topazes, in general, are pale, but both these gems occur, occasionally in very large crystals, in the same matrix as in Siberia, viz., a coarse, and very much decomposed granitic rock.

The quartz is of that colour, to which the name of "smoke" is commonly given. Some specimens contain a small quantity of opal.

The Mourne granite is unsurpassed for toughness and durability, and its texture is so close, that it is susceptible of a beautiful polish.

The average weight of granite is 170lbs. per cubic foot, of clay and roofing slate, 177lbs., and of sandstone, 145lbs. Castlewellan granite, on trial at the Woolwich Arsenal, sustained a pressure of 34,000, whilst some English and Scotch specimens were crushed by a weight of 12,400.†

The granite used for the steps, pedestals, and columns, of the Albert Memorial, in London, was procured from the Castlewellan quarries.

Old red sandstone does not occur in Down.

The new red sandstone, in its course from Gilford and Kilwarlin, traverses the Lagan several times, and then running along the Castlereagh hills, by Dundonald and Comber, loses itself at the Lough of Strangford. In its progress, it rests upon the Silurian rocks, which cover the greater part of the county.

Freestone quarries have been extensively worked both in Kilwarlin, and at Scrabo. The stone at the latter, being fine in the grain, and clear in colour, is in very extensive use, for building. The hewn stone employed in the erection of Trinity College,

\* Reilly's Harris.

† Kean's Industrial Resources.



Dublin, was procured from the Kilwarlin quarries, and a very fine specimen may be seen in the church of Hillsborough, forming a step to the communion-table, twenty-one feet long, by two in breadth.

The Bunter sandstone, some yellow, and some deep red, from quarries in the neighbourhood of Scrabo, Dundonald, and Moira afford good building materials, and are in extensive use.

In the vicinity of Scrabo, Newtownards, and Mount Stewart, the Silurian rocks are surrounded by sandstone, varying in colour from red to grey, which, capped with greenstone, forms the mass of Scrabo Hill.

Sandstone from the vicinity of Belfast is thus chemically composed :—

Silica	...	.	...	...	54.34
Peroxide of iron	...		...	...	3.90
Alumina	...	...	...	...	4.35
Carbonate of lime	...		...	...	30.00
Carbonate of magnesia			...	...	2.49
Phosphate of iron	...		...	...	0.20
Alkalies	...	..	...	...	traces
Water and loss	...		...	...	4.72

in 100.00 parts.

Lime occurs only in four places, in the County of Down, viz., at Holywood, Castle Espie, Moira, and Greencastle.

Dark grey and black shales, hard grey limestone, with red and yellow shales, calcareous grit, green calcareous sandstones, brick-red sandstones, and fine conglomerates, are met with in strata, on the shore of Belfast Lough, about one mile to the north-eastward of Holywood. These shales abound in *modiola* *MacAdami*, whilst, *orthocera*, *cypriocardia*, *natica*, and *entomostraca*, are more or less frequent.

Permian beds, of very small area, situated on the southern shore of Belfast Lough, east of Cultra pier, resting on strata of lower carboniferous age, were first brought to notice by Dr. Bryce,

of Belfast. These beds bear a striking resemblance to the permian fossiliferous dolomite, of the north of England. They are only to be observed during the ebb of the tide, and consist of yellow dolomite, formerly exported to Glasgow, for the manufacture of sulphate of magnesia. Below the shale described, are red marls, resting on thin fossiliferous limestone, and shales of carboniferous age.

The dark grey shales contain fossils characteristic of that formation. Some fine specimens of fish scales, taken from these beds, may be seen in the Belfast Museum.

Magnesian limestone is a true dolomite, distinguished from common limestone, by its peculiar fawn colour, and greater density, and by its dissolving slowly, with slight effervescence, in dilute acids. Its composition, according to Sir Robert Kane, consists of

Magnesia ...	...	...	...	22.1
Lime ...	...	...	...	30.3
Carbonic acid ...	...	...	...	47.6
				<hr/>
				100.

The analysis in the "Belfast Guide" varies considerably from this, showing carbonate of lime 48.33, carbonate of magnesia 44.11, oxide of iron and alumina 2.25, and silica and insoluble clay 5.00, as the constituent ingredients.

By some it is maintained, that the magnesian limestone of Cultra is only a portion of the carboniferous shales, but several characteristic permian fossils having been found in it, the bed is laid down, on the maps of the Geological Survey, as being Permian.

Another patch of magnesian limestone, discovered by Messrs. Jukes, and Du Noyer, not far from Moira, is supposed by them to be of Permian age, but no fossils were found in it.

The fossils usually met with in the Silurian series are imperfectly defined graptolites.\*

\* Journal of the Geological Society of Dublin. Vol. I. part ii.

The quarry, from which the lime is procured at Castle Espie, is covered with boulder clay. The carboniferous limestone occurring here is red, hard, and sparkling. Some of the beds are forty feet in thickness, and contain fossils of very large size. No other carboniferous rocks are found in the northern part of the County, though they are believed to have covered at one time the Belfast and Newtownards valley, and in process of denudation, to have left only the small patches of Castle Espie, and Cultra, behind.

The adjoining Lough of Strangford, there is reason to suppose, materially differs from its original state, and even its existence has been attributed to its having formed a basin of limestone removed by denudation, and atmospheric solution, and there are grounds for surmising, that it may originally have been a fresh water lake, and not, as now, connected with the sea.\*

The strata in the Magheralin chalk, or white limestone quarry, is described by Mr. Hull, Director of the Irish Branch of the Geological Survey, as consisting of white chalk, with very large flints, chalk, gravel, flints in yellowish clay, soft and dark decomposing trap, or amygdaloid, basalt, rudely columnar, dull red boulder clay, blocks of dolomite, felstone, trap, Silurian grit, syenite, with pebbles frequently ice-worn, and scratched, twelve to twenty feet in thickness, the upper surface consisting of red clay, with chalk, gravel, and pebbles of trap rock.

The large flints, considered by Dr. Buckland to be fossil sponges, exhibiting cylindrical perforations, filled with hard white chalk, have received the absurd local name of "paramoudras."

Many of these flints are of great size, and various forms, one specimen measuring thirty by eighteen inches, and they occur either in combined, or in detached pieces. The great white limestone bed of Moira and Maheraghlin, which overhangs the Lagan, appears to be a continuation of the chalk ranges of the County of Antrim.

\* Memoirs of the Geological Survey, Nos. 49, 50, 61.

The Greencastle or Cranfield limestone, lying on the southern shore of the County of Down, crops out between the two localities mentioned. It is of a dark blue colour, generally used as manure, being little employed for building purposes.\*

Calcareous marl, highly stratified, is found under some of the small bogs. It contains fresh-water shells, the most abundant of which are *Planorbis discus*, *Paludina lenta*, *Lymnoea valvata*, and *Physa*. Localities, in which these marls occur are Legamaddy, and White Bog, near Killough, Loughkeelan, near Downpatrick, and Loughs Cowey and Ballyfinragh, in the Ards.

Red marl, Keuper and Upper Mottled Sandstone, or Bunter, which occur in the valley of the Lagan, are comprised under the name of Triassic, Liassic being a term applied to the lower Lias clay.

The cretaceous series includes upper chalk and upper greensand.

To the east and south-east of Lisburn, near Homra, we meet with beds of hard shattery grit and shales, cut through by dykes of dolomite, which contain crystals of augite, labradorite, and zeolite.

The different geological formations, though generally covered, may also be observed naked, at various points throughout the county.

Traces of lignite have been discovered, here and there, as on the shores of Strangford Lough, and the lime quarries at Magheralin, and it has been maintained, but on very questionable grounds, that coal beds exist in the vicinity of Holywood, Newtownards, Newtownbreda, and Belfast, but Mr. Gray, Mr. Anderson, and others contend, that there is no evidence to show, that the upper carboniferous beds containing the coal measures were ever deposited in this district, or if so, that the denudation, which has since occurred, was so great, as to sweep them entirely away. We have rocks of the underlying carboniferous, and Silurian forma-

\* Mr. John Anderson, in *News-Letter*, 1872.

tions, and of the overlying Permian and Triassic series, but the intervening coal-bearing strata are absent. The Silurian rocks of the County have been carefully examined for traces of coal, but without success.

The precise localities where coal ought to be discovered are well ascertained, but the questions arising are, whether the carboniferous strata really exist, and, if so, whether coal, in sufficient quantity, is to be found in a position, which would make the working profitable, and both questions must probably be answered in the negative.\*

Various shafts sunk in the vicinity of Laurencetown, from time to time, in the expectation of finding coal, have been relinquished after an unsuccessful search, and Mr. Gray of Belfast, on a personal examination, could not find the slightest indications of this mineral in that district, although lignite occurs between the beds of trap rock. At Castle Espie the new red sandstone rests upon the carboniferous rocks, and at Cultra, the permian beds are in immediate contact with them, facts indicating the absence of the coal measures.

But this opinion does not rest solely on geological observations, as it has frequently been brought to the test of practical examinations. Nearly a hundred years ago various mining shafts were driven, some to the depth of 240 feet, by the Bangor and Newtown Mining Company, in the neighbourhood of Scrabo Hill when the freestone was found to be incumbent on the primitive rock, and in 1786, Mr. Joseph Jackson, an eminent engineer, after a special examination of a number of these shafts, came to the conclusion that no coal existed in that district.

More modern researches, after borings effected in different places, do not lead to a more favourable opinion, although it is alleged, that a seam of coal, of the dimensions of six feet, has been recently discovered at the Trench, in the immediate vicinity of

\* Mr. John Anderson's Lecture at the Natural History Society, Belfast, reported in the *Belfast News-Letter*, 1872.



Lough of Strangford, a statement however, which we have not seen subsequently confirmed.

The underlying beds of some of the most extensive bogs consist of blue marl, with lymnoea, and other fresh water shells.

Turf or peat is merely vegetable matter of ancient growth, found wherever the soil has been long soaked with confined water, not completely evaporated by the heat of the sun. Dried peat consists of the roots of certain mosses and fibres, in every stage of decay, the sphagnum palustre, especially, contributing largely to its composition. From the nature of its formation, under the surface of the water, peat acquires a portion of tannin, which has the property of preserving animal, and vegetable matter. Of the better descriptions of turf, a cubic yard would weigh 900 lbs., but the light turf, not more than about half as much.

Peat is of various qualities, being light-coloured, deep-brown, or even black, according to the proportion of vegetable substance which it contains.

On incineration, peat yields from nineteen to twenty-four per cent. of charcoal, which is light and inflammable.

Bogs differ greatly in depth, some lying as much as forty feet from the surface to the substratum, and in other places not being more than a fourth, sixth, or tenth of this measurement. The extent of bogs is effected by the nature of their substrata, as on quartz rocks they are shallow and small, whilst on any rock yielding clay, when decomposed, they are more extensive. Ancient peat-beds, submerged many feet below the level of the sea, occur at Ballyholme Bay, and some other points. Although bog covers nearly one-seventh of the entire surface of the Island, little is left unexhausted, in the County of Down, and it is not necessary, therefore, to enter into an examination of the various mechanical means suggested and practised, for its preparation as fuel. Air dried turf contains about thirty per cent. of water, and is equal to about half, or if thoroughly dried, three-fifths of its weight of coal. But it contains much less nitrogen than that mineral, and not more than half its heating power.



The large trees usually found in lowland bogs are generally fir, probably of the Scotch species, oak, and birch. The first is so impregnated with resinous matter, partly consisting of turpentine, and partly of the products of decomposition, that it burns speedily, with a bright flame, being in various places, on account of its illuminating power, substituted for candles, under the local name of "splits." As firewood it cannot be surpassed.

Agaric or touchwood is found in some of the bogs, in considerable quantities.

Various fossils, including the remains of the gigantic Irish elk, *Megaceros Hibernicus*, have been discovered from time to time, in the diatomaceous lacustrine deposits, found below the peat, in the vicinity of Newtownards, Quintin Castle, Banbridge, Dromore, and other places.

Beds of slate of various colours, black, red, blue, gray, and green, dipping at all angles, occur in various parts of the County. At different times, slates have been raised in the neighbourhood, of Grey Abbey, Ballywalter, Annahilt, Ballinahinch, and Bangor, but the introduction of Welsh and other descriptions, has led to the abandonment of the quarries.

Near Ballywalter, the grits, shales, and slate, are exposed, alternating with felstone, and felstone ashes, and are cut through by dykes of minette, diorite, greenstone, and felstone, in some instances, containing crystals of marcasite. The beds, in certain places, are several thousand feet in thickness.\* Near the Gate-lodge of Dalchoolin, below Holywood, the shales are cut through by dykes of basalt.

Copper has been met with, in various places, as in the Rostrevor Mountains, about Portaferry, and at Conlig, but no where in sufficient quantities, to make it an object of mining speculation.

Lead occurs in the vicinities of Killough, Dundrum, Strangford, Conlig, and Clandeboye, and various mines have been in operation, from time to time, but being found unremunerative, whether

\* Geological Explanatory Memoir.

from defects in quality, quantity, or the mode of working them, they have all been relinquished.

The Conlig mine, situated on the property of the Marquis of Londonderry, is thus described by Dr. Houghton :—" The lode coincides with a dyke of dark green diorite, whilst the gangue of the lode is a fine angular breccia of silurian rock. It was very rich in galena, at one time, and very productive. but ceasing to be profitable, it was abandoned in 1865." This is the only instance coming under the notice of Dr. Houghton, in which a pure horn blende constituted the gangue of a lead mine.\*

At the Exhibition of 1854 in Dublin, specimens of copper pyrites, galena, manganese, iron, fuller's earth, and emery stone, all coming from the County of Down, were exposed for examination.†

Iron, as many of the springs indicate, is common all over the County. We shall here, however, only refer to two of the most important discoveries, viz., that on the property of Lord Edwin Hill Trevor, at Dehommet between Kate's Bridge and Dromara, and another vein, said to be of good quality, recently found on the shore, between Millisle and Donaghadee, in the townland of Ballyvester, lying very near the surface, and at a depth of six feet, a large quantity of the same material, occurring in numerous strata, each of which was about six inches in thickness. In a few days, from an excavation of fourteen feet, by twenty-one, in dimensions, about fifty tons of ore are said to have been thrown up, but the ultimate result is yet to be determined.‡

A thin seam of galena was discovered some years ago, near Swinely Point, adjoining the townland of Carnalea.

Sulphate of Barytes, has been discovered on the banks of a rivulet, in Hillsborough demesne.

Various descriptions of fossils have been found in the several geological formations of the County, especially in the localities of

\* *Mems. of the Irish Geological Society*, vol. v., p. 203.

† *Index to the Dublin Exhibition*, p. 102.

‡ *Belfast News-Letter*, December, 1873.

Moira, Maralin, Holywood, and the townlands of Toughblane, Ballylintogh, Ballymacateer, Dunnally, Ballytrustan, and Tieves-hilly.

Though the fossils are not numerous, they include in greater or less abundance specimens of the mollusca, annelida, amorphozoa, echinodermata, and crustacea, as well as a few plants, lignite, and fish remains, the number hitherto observed, being about ninety. But we have only space to enumerate a few species, including *Pecten orbicularis*, *Ostrea canaliculata*, *Vermillia ampullacea*, *Cardiaster granulatus*, *Terebratula carnea*, *Ostrea vesicularis*, *Turbo helacinus*, *Bakewellia antiqua*, *Pecten nitidus*, *Belemnitella mucronata*, *Nautilus laevigatus*, *Graptolithus tenuis*, *Rastrites peregrinus*, *Modiola Macadami*, *Beyrichia multiloba*, *Orthis resupinata*, *Productus giganteus*, *Spirifera bisulcata*, *Stroppomena analoga*, *Actinoceras giganteum*, *Productus horridus*, and *Graptolithus plumosus*.

Of the kinds discovered much the most numerous class are the mollusca, especially in the shales, at Castle Espie. A fossil of the class, *Orthoceratiles*, has been found, six feet in length.

The fossils of the cretaceous rocks are numerous, and include various species of the *Foraminifera*, *Entomostraca*, and *Sponge Spiculæ*.

The reader desirous of inquiring more minutely into the geology of the County will find nearly all that is yet known on the subject, in the *Memoirs of the Geological Survey*, explanatory of the Ordnance maps,\* the letter-press of which has been contributed by Mr. Edward Hull, the president, and by Messrs. J. L. Warren, W. B. Leonard, F. W. Egan, W. H. Bailey, and W. A. Trail, members of the official staff,† to whom I feel much indebted for the facilities afforded me in completing my work. The general geological conformation of the County may at once be ascertained, by reference to the various colourings on the accompanying map.

\* Numbers 37, 38, 29, 36, 49, 50, 61, and 48.

† See also *Guide to Belfast*, pp. 48, 49.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### Climate, Disease, and Longevity.

THE climate of Down is moist but temperate, and not subject to violent extremes, although very variable, the transitions of the barometer being rapid and frequent. The mercury, however, rarely rises as high as  $31^{\circ}$ , or descends so low as  $27^{\circ}$ , and usually ranges between the degrees of twenty-eight, and thirty. This equable condition of the climate may, in a great degree, be owing to the proximity of the ocean, and the deep indentations of the extensive bays, which cause both frost and snow rapidly to dissolve, within the influence of the sea air.

The variations of the thermometer are not great, though very rapid and frequent. In the height of summer, the range is usually included between  $60^{\circ}$  and  $70^{\circ}$ , though occasionally both higher and lower. In the year 1872, the highest point was  $67^{\circ} 50'$ , and the lowest  $32^{\circ} 10'$ .

At the Queen's College, Belfast, the average temperature, for twelve years, was 48 degrees, 8 minutes, from which that of the County of Down differs but little.

The winters are generally mild, not usually commencing, in their severity, until Christmas.

The most inclement months are January, February, and March, and very often cold sharp winds continue during the spring, even up to the end of May, whilst on the other hand a succession of dry and agreeable weather is, in some years, experienced, in the late autumnal, and even in the early winter months.

The most trying cold is due rather to the violence, and

dampness of the winds, than to the absolute lowness of the temperature.

Boate described the climate of the northern parts of the kingdom, in his day, as milder than that of other countries, lying in the same parallel of latitude.

Long frosts and protracted droughts are infrequent, but windy weather is very prevalent. The greatest and most violent storms are experienced in December, January, and February.

Throughout the year the most prevalent, and strongest winds are from the south-west, whilst easterly gales are more usual in the spring, those from the south-east, being often accompanied by continuous and heavy rains. North winds are the least common, but it frequently blows from the west, and with great violence from the north-west.

The winds do not blow from the same quarter, or with equal violence, throughout the island, at the same time, and the following observations made at the Ordnance Office, near Dublin, in 1867, may serve as an illustration of their general prevalence. In that year, the wind blew 92 days from the west, with a force represented by an average pressure of 3.76lbs. per square foot; from the south-west, 71; from the east, 37; from the south, 30; from the south east, 31; from the north, 21; from the north-east, 14, and from the north-west, 47 days; whilst for 22 days, there was a calm. The strongest wind was from the west, and occurred on the 6th of February, with a violence equal to a pressure of 25lbs., per square foot.

Hurricanes are very rare, but one of the most violent on record, in this kingdom, passed over the island in 1839, and uprooted in all directions vast numbers of the oldest and most valuable trees.

It must be admitted, that the quaint description of Boate, "that the rain is very ordinary in Ireland, and it raineth much all the year long, in the summer as well as in the winter," is applicable to this, as to other parts of the island, but not to the same extent, as to Sligo, Mayo, Donegal, and other counties on the western seaboard.

Heavy rains, however, are not confined to Ireland, for we are told by Dr. Hooker, in his *Himalayan Journal*, that in the Khasia Hills, in Eastern Bengal, where the temperature approaches that of Ireland, twelve inches of rain fall, in a particular district, for one that falls in this kingdom.

Our heaviest and most prevalent rains are from the westward, and particularly the south-west, although weighty falls sometimes take place from the eastward, and especially from the south-east, rarely lasting less than twelve, or even twenty-four hours. Heavy showers, for two or three days consecutively, frequently come with a north-west wind. The advent of rain is not unusually indicated by marked depression of the temperature. From the conformation of the surface, and the hilly, sandy, and unretentive nature of the soil, in many parts of the County, the rain speedily runs off, or is absorbed, and the atmosphere is consequently less moist than it would otherwise be found.

The following table shows the rain-fall for the year 1872, and the average of the five preceding years, as taken at Sydenham, in the County of Down, about sixty feet above the sea level.

	Year 1872.		Mean average of five preceding years.
January	5.48 inches	.	3.59 inches
February	5.30 "	.	3.30 "
March	2.27 "	.	2.16 "
April	3.29 "	.	2.36 "
May	2.66 "	.	2.52 "
June	4.39 "	.	1.15 "
July	4.20 "	.	2.21 "
August	3.48 "	.	2.65 "
September	4.31 "	.	2.98 "
October	4.90 "	.	4.24 "
November	5.40 "	.	2.67 "
December	7.32 "	.	3.17 "
Total	53.00		33.59 inches.



The mean annual rain-fall in Belfast, as abstracted from the registry kept at the White-linen Hall, amounted, on an average of twelve years, to 33 inches, closely corresponding with the above table, the highest point having been 40.7 in 1852, and the lowest 24.1 in 1855. In 1872 two hundred and thirty-seven days were wet.

According to a registry kept in the Ordnance Survey Office, the number of days on which rain fell, in the years 1860, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, and 1866, were respectively 210, 212, 221, 197, 178, and 216. In 1867 rain or snow fell on 201 days, the greatest fall amounting to 9.906 inches in the twenty-four hours.

Rain, wherever falling, has the same chemical composition, viz., 8 parts of oxygen and 1 of hydrogen, by weight, or 1 of oxygen and 2 of hydrogen, by measure.

Deep, long-lying snows only occur at distant and uncertain intervals. In 1814 the snow commenced, in the beginning of the year, blocking up most of the roads for some weeks, and for many days, altogether preventing the travelling of the mail and stage coaches; but the snows, usually falling, do not exceed a few inches in depth, and there are only some winters, in which the ice is sufficiently strong to admit, for any length of time, of the amusement of skating.

Damp weather is often prevalent here, when hunting is entirely prevented, by the severity of the frost, at Melton Mowbray, and other places in England. Slighter frosts, however of no long duration, are common enough, and when they thaw, early in the day, the moisture which flies up is prone to descend in heavy falls of rain.

Snow, it may be observed, exerts a beneficial effect on vegetation, which partly arises from the protection which it affords, against frosts and blighting winds, and partly from the electricity with which it is charged.

The Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis, often appear in varying tints of great brilliancy and beauty.

Fogs, especially in the autumn, are dense and frequent.

The falls of dew are at times very heavy, and correct the effects of protracted droughts. "The absence of dew," says Boate, "is a certain sign to the inhabitants, that great rain is to fall suddenly;" and he adverts to the custom of gathering May-dew in Ireland, as in England, "for several good uses of physic and otherwise."

Thunder and lightning are neither so frequent, nor so violent as in many other parts of the kingdom; and the statement of Boate "that Ireland is as little subject to thunder and lightning as any country in the world," is literally true, at the present day.

The opinion, that the dampness of the climate is not unfavourable to health, or the prolongation of human existence, is borne out by numerous instances of longevity, in all parts of the country, the average duration of life in Ireland being quite equal to that in England. Harris, in his History of the County, adduces many instances of ages exceeding 90, and a few spun out to more than 100 years, one individual, in particular, having survived to the very unusual term of 112 years. On the 12th of August, 1744, died Alexander Bennet, of Rathfriland, aged 125 years. He was a trooper at the battle of Boddle, in Scotland, in King Charles's reign, and served at the siege of Derry, and the battle of the Boyne. Samuel Oliver, who died in 1838, at Newtonbreda, was aged 104 years. He was discharged from Chelsea Hospital, in 1775, as being consumptive, and received his pension for upwards of 62 years.

In Dromore churchyard is the tombstone of Catharine Moffet, aged 101 years, and a slab, in the ruins of Greyabbey, had this inscription:—"Annie Gaw, who died in 1689, aged 104 years."

In Rathmullen churchyard is a tombstone, to the memory of Mrs. Jelly, and other members of the family, bearing the following inscription:—

"Here lieth the body of Mrs. Anne Jelly, who departed this life, ye 5th day of August, 1718, aged 105."

This family is now extinct, Susanna, the sole heiress, having married Mr. Wm. Montgomery, of Greyabbey, in whose descend-

ants the townlands of Glovat and Rathmullen are vested to this day.

In a selection of the names of sixty-two individuals, between the years 1749, and 1835, inclusive, taken from a MS. note of M'Skimmin, recording the ages of various parties, they were found to range from 100 to 131 years. The correctness, however, of some of the figures may be questioned. Among them are—

Isabel Laughlin, Rathfriland, 118.

Alexander M'Kearn, Rathfriland, 120.

Various lists of persons, resident in all parts of the county, whose ages have ranged from 90 to more than 110 years, have been accumulated, but it would be superfluous to introduce them here. The following table of persons living, in the several quinquennial periods of life, may, however, be considered relevant to the present subject :—

5 to 10 years	...	...	...	41.946
10 „ 15 „	...	...	...	38.988
15 „ 20 „	...	...	...	36.646
20 „ 30 „	...	...	...	56.511
30 „ 40 „	...	...	...	34.906
43 „ 50 „	...	...	...	26.709
50 „ 60 „	...	...	...	20.031
60 „ 70 „	...	...	...	12.910
70 „ 80 „	...	...	...	5.263
80 „ 90 „	...	...	...	13.25
90 „ 100 „	...	...	...	1.66
Upwards of 100	...	...	...	.13
Unascertained	...	...	...	.652

The County of Down is not peculiarly liable to epidemic diseases, although outbreaks of fever, scarlatina, small-pox, and dysentery occur from time to time, but their origin is difficult to determine, and we are still in the dark regarding their origin, all the assigned causes, (impurities of drinking water included,) being inadequate, with the exception of contagion, from which

unquestionably many cases arise, but the majority, as I believe, from causes hitherto unascertained. The different forms of fever, (specific diseases excepted), are, in my opinion, identical, but under what peculiar circumstances they have their origin is, I believe, a discovery still to be made. The so-called typhoid fever has been, of late, dogmatically attributed to impurity of the water used for dietetic purposes, defective sewerage, and the consequent foul air of a particular room, the fact being entirely overlooked, that the same apartment in which the disease may have occurred has been occupied, probably for years, by a variety of persons, without producing any symptom of disease. And if the causes alleged were the real ones, it may be asked why, in a very severe epidemic of fever prevalent several years ago, should Cork and Limerick have suffered severely, whilst Killarney, as regarded sanitary arrangements, and cleanliness, in a much worse condition than either, entirely escaped, not to mention that the alleged causes are in permanent operation, whilst outbreaks of fever are only occasional and temporary.

In the long entertained opinions, which are here expressed, the writer is not singular, for, as appropriately argued by Dr. Pratt, a physician of prolonged experience, many parts of Ireland would, ere now, have been depopulated, if the assigned were the real causes. The views of Dr. William Stokes, perhaps the highest living authority on the subject we are discussing, have been pronounced in no uncertain terms, his conclusion being, "that while the presumed causes of fever are permanent, the effects are not so, the occurrence of fever being epidemic and inconstant." "Fever," he adds, "whether petechial, typhus, non-petechial, or pythogenic, are all essentially the same," and his opinions are acquiesced in by Dr. Henry Kennedy, another physician of great experience.\*

But without attempting to deny the value of sanitary measures, on various grounds, the conclusion is forced upon me, after long

\* Medical Press, March 6th, 1868.

experience, that they influence, in a very slight degree, the course of epidemics, which subside, as they originate, from causes not yet ascertained. Examples without number might be adduced to shew, that foul odours originating in defective sanitary arrangements, do not necessarily cause fever, for if so, why should it never have occurred in Aix la Chapelle, one of the filthiest towns in Europe, whilst prevalent in other cities, more favourably situated, in a sanitary point of view. In the present century, the most general and fatal epidemics in this county, took place in 1817 and 1847, the former after the very wet summer, and scanty and unwholesome food, of 1816, and the latter, following on what was truly termed the famine year.

There have been two fatal epidemics of cholera, in the present century, one in 1832, and another in 1849, but its irruptions were very capricious, some towns suffering severely, and others very little if at all. The places chiefly affected by its ravages, in this county, in the former year were Moira, Hillsborough, Dromore, Killyleagh, Bangor, Grey Abbey, St. Andrew's, Parish, Portaferry, Saul, Downpatrick, Banbridge, Kilkeel, Rathfriland, and Clonallen. The village of Raholp also suffered greatly.\*

The frequency of small-pox has, unquestionably, been greatly diminished by the introduction of vaccination. The disease still, however, shews itself at uncertain intervals, but with less intensity than formerly. In 1869, the whole kingdom was, for several months, free from it, but in the November of that year, cases began to occur, and the malady soon assumed an epidemic form. In some instances, the infection was, doubtless, introduced from England, and although contagion may be the most common mode of its propagation, there is no sufficient reason to question its occasional spontaneous occurrence, for, if the possibility of its being generated *de novo* be denied, we may fairly ask, in what did the first case of the disease originate?

Since the time of Jenner, the practice of vaccination has

\* Knox—Inquiry into the present state of our knowledge of Cholera.



received more or less attention, but under the provisions of the Dispensary and Vaccination Acts, it was largely increased, and in the first year after the passing of Sir Robert Peel's Act, in 1864, the numbers submitting to the operation were nearly doubled.

In vaccination we have the certain means of controlling the terrible malady of small-pox, an advantage which we do not possess in the case of any other disease, and notwithstanding recent cavils and ill-judged opposition, the most careful reconsideration of the question confirms me in the conclusion. announced more than twenty years ago, in a publication expressly devoted to an examination of the subject, in which it is stated, "that the efficient and general practice of vaccination, aided by re-vaccination under suitable circumstances, will be found an efficient safeguard against the ravages of small-pox, in all constitutions not absolutely beyond the influence of any protecting agent whatever."

The common diseases of catarrh, scarlatina, measles, and hooping cough, also occur in an epidemic form, from time to time, but they are not of unusual prevalence in this county, and we are quite in the dark, as to the causes influencing their appearance in that type in particular years. Scrofula is common, and dyspepsia even more so, especially amongst weavers, muslin embroiderers, and mill-workers, as I am informed by Dr. Jamison, of Newtownards, who has extensive opportunities for observation. These affections are variously attributable to imperfect nutrition, hereditary taint, and the moisture and cold of particular districts, or to all combined. Dr. Preston, whose practice lies in the mountainous districts of Mourne, assigns intermarriage of relatives as another cause, and, he says, the admission from that locality of patients into the lunatic asylum, is proportionally greater than from other adjacent districts. Phthisis is common enough, but not more so, than in any other part of the kingdom, and in many instances, no doubt, a scrofulous constitution is the predisposing cause of this disease, as stated in a communication received from Dr. Vesey, of Rostrevor.



Certain skin diseases, dependent, in some cases, on the want of personal cleanliness, and in others on contagion, are rather prevalent. Rheumatism, neuralgia, tabes mesenterica, and parasitic worms are also common, especially amongst the lower classes, but the population may be fairly described, as comparatively healthy, and not unusually liable to any special diseases. Indeed it would be no exaggeration to say, that the County of Down stands at least as high, as regards the athletic forms, and sound constitutions, of its inhabitants, as any other part of the empire, and we believe the climate of Down may be considered, on the whole, to be as salubrious, and conducive to longevity as any other, although it varies to some extent in different localities, from causes depending on the nature of the soil, the state of drainage, and especially by the comparative extent of exposure or shelter. In the towns, various measures have been recently adopted, with a view to promote the health, and comfort of the inhabitants, but a great deal remains yet to be accomplished, in improving the houses of the poorer classes, and in providing them with a sufficiency of pure air, water, and light, objects, which, although not recognising their direct connection with fever, we hope to see attained, by the operation of the various Acts of Parliament, now under the administration of the Local Government Board. The principal statutes directed to an end so desirable, are the several Poor Relief, the Towns Improvements (Ireland), Commissioners Clauses, Towns Improvement Clauses, Sanitary, Sewage Utilisation, Nuisances Removal, and Diseases Prevention Acts, with some others, all passed in the reign of her present Majesty, and in course of being put in execution throughout the County.

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## PART V.

# LAND AND WAGES.

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### CHAPTER XXXV.

#### Value of Land.

VARIOUS circumstances affect the value of land, including the natural quality and depth of soil, its chemical composition, the nature of the subsoil and its acquired fertility, the fencing, drainage, climate, aspect, cost of labour, and facilities for disposing of the produce, together with the condition of the manufacturing population in the vicinity, the rate of wages, and the kind and security of tenure.

The value of land is also affected by various acts of Parliament, passed in recent years, including the laws made for transferring the payment of tithes from the tenant to the landlord, under the name of rent charge, with a deduction of twenty-five per cent. in favour of the latter, and the Townland, Poor Law, and Valuation Acts brought into operation, in order to substitute a general valuation, for public assessments, in place of the arbitrary valuations previously in use.

The principal statutes facilitating the transfer, and of course affecting the value of the soil, are the 12th and 13th of Vic., c. 77, by which a commission was appointed for the sale of encumbered estates, with powers to arrange partitions, exchanges, apportionments of rent, and declarations of title, and the 28th and 29th Vic., c. 88, under which a record of title office, was established analogous to the land registry office in England, for the purpose of duly recording Parliamentary and indefeasible titles.

Nor is the operation of the recent Land Act without its influence

on the value of property, giving rise as it has, so far, done, to frequent and expensive litigation, whilst transferring many millions in value, from the landlord to the tenant, and the right in part of settling the rent from the owners of the soil, to the judges of the Land Court.

But independently of the causes referred to, the tendency to an increase in rents, and the value of property, has, as we shall shew, been progressive for a long series of years.

Towards the close of the sixteenth century, the lands of the Bishopric of Dromore were valued at the rate of about  $7\frac{1}{2}d.$  an acre, whilst in the earlier part of the present century, the reserved rents and renewal fines alone, amounted to £4,223 per annum; and the rents charged to the occupying tenants, by the immediate lessors, have varied from ten, to forty-five shillings, per acre, and even more.

The following extracts taken from a curious old manuscript in the library of the Dublin Society, are to a similar effect :—

“List of forfeited lands sold by Cant, with the names of the forfeiters and purchasers.

No. 1. The lands undermentioned in the County of Down will be exposed for sale at Chichester House, on Tuesday, the 1st day of June, 1703, by ‘Cant,’ of the best bidder, Comminstown, and Coniamstown, in the parish of Bright, and barony of Lecale, consisting of 263 acres; the annual rent £65 10s.; the tenant’s name Nicholas Price.”

The amount obtained for this lot was £426 15s.

No. 2. Ballystrew, consisting of 170 acres in the Parish of Down, was sold for £500.”

The purchasers of these properties was Mr. Robert Echlyn of Dublin, and the late proprietor was Mr. Valentine Russell.

About the same time in the Ards, Patrick Savage purchased from Rowland Savage, lands comprising 463 acres, let at a rack rent of £106 15s. the real value being rated at £78 per annum. The amount realised by this sale was only £56 above the costs and encumbrances, which amounted to £3000.

Another “Cant,” according to the same document, took place in

the vicinity of Newry, when James Anderson, of Dublin, purchased from Patrick White, lands of which the rents were £162 11s., for the sum of £1,215, not above one-third of the present selling price.

In 1750, the rent of arable land in Down was 5s. per acre, when the price of wheat, barley, and oats, was for the first, 12s. per barrel, of twenty stone, and for the two latter 6s., and 4s., respectively.

At this time, as we are told by Arthur Dobbs, the net profits in Ulster, from tillage, did not exceed 30s. 6d., to £3 per acre, and from pasture land, 20s.

In 1778, the rent in Norfolk was 11s. 6d. per acre, and the average rate, in fourteen English counties, was 10s. 6d.

In the county of Down, at the same period, it was 7s. 6d., the average in four other counties in Ulster, being 6s. 6d.

In 1852, these rents had nearly quadrupled, the advance in the County of Down having exceeded that in Norfolk. In 1780, the lands of Ulster, as stated by Arthur Young, comprised 800,000 acres, fit to produce corn crops, which were then let at about 10s. the Irish, or 6s. 6d. the statute acre. Since that period the population has increased about 200 per cent., and the value of the best land, in the North of Ireland, is as high as in the finest districts in England, for we are informed by the Times Commissioner, that the average rent, in Norfolk, is about 25s. 6d., and in the south-eastern counties, £1 3s. 8d.. per acre, prices nearly on a level with those in Down and Antrim, where the average may be stated at 20s. the statute acre, although in many cases ranging both above and below this standard.

The rise in value may also, in part, be accounted for, by the increased demand for land, and the relatively small quantities available to supply the want. For according to the last census, the area of the county comprised 609,405 acres of land, and 3,004 of water of which 339,541 acres were under tillage, 187,604 in pasture, and 12,027 under plantation; the remainder, amounting to 70,269 acres, being bog, mountain, or waste, whilst the population amounted to 293,449 persons.

The total value of the crops raised in the county in a given

year (1868) amounted to £647,985, and the following table exhibits the extent of land, under the several species of crop, for the seven years ending in 1869:—

	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley; Bere, and Rye.	Beans and Peas.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Other Green Crops.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.	Total extent under crops.	Fallow or uncropped arable land.
	Acres.										
1864,	21,061	119,754	1,352	1,273	55,164	17,232	3,649	59,186	54,659	333,330	451
1865,	20,162	122,815	1,011	1,292	58,118	16,824	4,322	48,999	62,623	336,166	1,109
1866,	23,559	117,558	1,151	967	58,668	15,996	3,441	51,762	60,077	334,179	619
1867,	22,613	118,691	936	1,056	56,429	17,693	3,293	48,044	61,836	330,591	218
1868,	26,869	120,384	991	446	57,470	16,562	3,581	36,887	61,832	325,022	324
1869,	31,677	120,930	1,013	310	58,532	15,230	3,695	37,550	59,548	328,485	519

The scale of wages, which seriously influences the value of land, has varied greatly, within the past and present centuries, and readers cognisant of the high rates now exacted by combinations and trades unions, will, perhaps, be surprised to learn, that in former days they were preceded by regulations equally arbitrary, on the part of the employer.

The compulsory legislation in operation, in this respect, in England, was introduced into Ireland, by the 33rd of Henry VIII., cap. 9, under which authority was given to the justices of peace, to fix by proclamation the rate of payment, not only of agricultural labourers, but also of masons, carpenters, "scantors," and other artisans, in proportion to the varying prices of clothing and provisions, a measure having its origin in the unreasonable wages demanded at the time. In 1712, the grand jury of Antrim, as appears from the county warrant of that year, presented the following rates, to be binding until the next ensuing Michaelmas :—

"To carpenters, bricklayers, masons, plaisterers, and slaters, 9d. with meat, or 1s. without; to taylors, 4d., glaziers, 6d., and shoemakers, 4d., with their diet superadded; and to the day labourer, 3d. with meat, or 5d. without."

At present the wages of tradesmen, including masons, carpenters, and other artisans, who formally received from 1s. 6d. or 2s. to 2s. 6d., per day, have now been raised to five or six shillings. The hours of work have been also materially shortened, whilst the remuneration of common labourers has been advanced, from 6d., 10d., or at most one shilling per day,\* to two shillings, and often more, showing an increase of 100 per cent. since the beginning of the century.

Formerly labourers went over by hundreds to England and Scotland, usually in the time of harvest, for employment, and increased wages. The emigration for these purposes is now comparatively rare, partly owing to the decrease of the population,

\* Dubourdieu.



and partly to the augmentation of wages, and the increased demand for labour at home, as all, now, with the exception of the idle, the drunken, or incorrigibly dissolute, can obtain full occupation, at remunerative rates. These exhibit an extraordinary advance on the prices usual in the times of Boate, who tells us, that “those that began to make turf early in the year, whilst labourers have little employment, gave ordinarily, besides meat and drink, three pence a-day to every man, and two pence to every woman, four pence a-day being the ordinary price, and when it was at the dearest, five pence.”

Before concluding this part of our subject, it may not be devoid of interest, to refer to even more remote times, when payment for work was made in cows, or food, in place of coin :—

“Of workers in stone and wood, the pay of the chief builder, or Ollamh Saer, was twenty-one cows, and a month’s refectio; six cows for making yew vessels, and six for kitchen building, or mill building; four cows, for ship, barque, and carach building, or the making of wooden vessels; whilst two cows were the payment for ploughs, causeways, cashels, stepping-stones, and for carving of crosses, as well as for chariots, houses of rods, shields, and bridges. The annexed account of the division of the animals slaughtered for food amongst the members of a household, is still more curious and amusing :—

“The head, tong, and feet, to the smith who knocked the animal down; the neck to the butcher; two small ribs, to go with the hind quarter, to the taylor; the kidneys, to the physitian; the marybones, to the donylader; the udder, to the harper; the liver, to the carpenter; a piece, to the garran keeper, *i. e.*, the stableman for draught horses; the next bone from the knee to the shoulder, to the horse boy in charge of the saddle horses; a choice piece of beef, to the shott, or musqueteir; the hart, to the cow heard; the next choice pece, to the housewif of the house; and the third choice, to the nurse, *i. e.*, the attendant on the sick and wounded. Black poodings, for the plowman; bigge poodings, for the plowman; Kylantoney, to the porter;

Dowleagh, a broad long piece lying on the entrail, to the calf-keeper ; the rump, to him that cutts the beff, and the tripes, to the cater, *i. e.*, the person purchasing or stealing the animal." The tallow was given for candles, and the 'hyde' for wine, or aquavitæ. A sheep when slaughtered was distributed in a similar manner.

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## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### Tenures.

THE tenures, by which lands have been held in these countries, are numerous, and offer to our consideration many points of interest, deserving of notice.

After the Norman Conquest, all the lands in England, according to Coke, were vested in the Crown, and holden by the subject, either mediately or directly from the Suzerain. This description of grant was called a *fief*, and was held on condition of certain service, which distinguished it from *allodium*, property, that is, held in absolute dominion,—a form of tenure unknown in Great Britain.

Lands thus granted by the Sovereign were said to be held in *grand* or *petty serjeanty*, and the services rendered in requital of a *fief*, included the discharge of various offices, both civil and military, such as acting as carver, and chamberlain, to the king, or carrying his banner, when required, as well as certain pecuniary payments. As an illustration of these services, we may refer to the case of a certain Peter Spileman, “who paid a fine to the king, for lands which the said Peter held by the serjeanty, on further condition of finding an esquire, with a *haubergette* or coat of mail, for forty days, and litter of straw for the king’s bed, and the keep of his palfrey.”

After the Norman invasion the grant by *fiefdom* was introduced into Ireland, together with the services which were thereby exacted, some of them of a slight and peculiar nature, of which the presentation of a rose to the king, on the first of June annually, for

the lands granted, in Lecale, to the Earl of Kildare, and his successors, may be taken as an example.

The following particulars of an ancient letting in the fifteenth century, are not without interest, as some of the conditions of the agreement were, until recently, customary in this country. A certain messuage of thirty acres of land, in an English county, was held on the following terms, viz. :—A yearly rent of twenty shillings, together with an offering of fourpence at Christmas, and a certain number of cocks and hens. Further conditions were, that the tenant, for three days, should mow the lands and meadows, and give his services for seven days in harvest, in consideration of which he was to receive one bushel of wheat, sixpence for drink, one whole day's produce of the dairy, and in addition, a wheaten loaf and eleven herrings at nine o'clock, daily.

In this county, besides the pecuniary rent, a certain number of days' labour were formerly exacted from the tenant, in each year, as well as a contribution of poultry, which were termed duty-fowls, and this custom has only, of late years, been wholly abolished. All rents, except for labourers' cottages, are now paid in money. One of the oldest forms of tenure was that laid down by the Brehon Law, under the appellation of Gavelkind, or Tanistry, in virtue of which, small divisions of land were distributed amongst all the branches of a family, and the owner of an allotment did not even retain his proportion for life, but only during the survivorship of all his co-partners, as the death of any one of them compelled him to throw his share, irrespective of any increase in its value, into a common stock, which again underwent a new subdivision. It is obvious that such an agreement as this must have tended to check all material or permanent improvement, and it, doubtless, had its origin in a vain hankering after equality, a condition of society which could not, even if realised, be maintained for a single year.

One serious evil flowing from the code of Tanistry, was the desire which it created for a minute subdivision of the land, and which, however opposed to the general interest, still maintains a

strong hold in the popular mind. The practical operation of the system is thus pointed out, by Sir Henry Piers, who describes the Scullogues as an inferior kind of peasant tenantry, united in a species of community, which held a farm, the pasturage of which was grazed in common, yet not with equal profits, for the joint holder of a collop or two, viz., a lot of various cattle, was as much entitled to have them ranging indifferently over all the pastures, as he who owned but a puckawn. The arable part, however, was by no means tilled, and enjoyed in common, but according to the most exact division of property, and it was not unusual to see ten or twelve ploughs going in one small field, which had a common mearing, but comprised many distinct tillage rights. The allotments were made according to the quality of the soil, and thence a man, whose share was three acres, had not a quarter of an acre in one place, but his portion was up and down, here and there."

The system which followed Gavelkind, when the land came to be parcelled out amongst extensive proprietors, had, according to Spenser, "one general inconvenience, which reigneth almost thro'out Ireland, that is, the lords of land and freeholders, doe not there use to set out their land in ferme, or for terme of years, to their tenants, but only from year to year, and some during pleasure; *neither, indeed, will the Irish tenant or husbandman otherwise take his land, than so long as he list himself.*"

The evils of this system appeared to have been so great, that he adds, "This inconvenience may be reason enough to ground any ordinance, for the good of the commonwealth, against the private behoof or ill-will of any landlord that shall refuse to "graunt" such terme of estate unto his tenant as may tend to the good of the whole realm," an opinion, curiously enough, foreshadowing an interference with private rights, on the plea of expediency, which is conspicuous in some of the provisions of the Land Act, and the unreasonable claims, often founded on them, tending, at no distant day, to expand into open and avowed communism.

As a general rule, however, there is now no indisposition on the

part of the majority of landlords, to grant leases at reasonable rents, but, as in the time of Spenser, many tenants, for whatever reason, still refuse the offer.

Tenures may be reduced to two classes, viz., those previously adverted to, as subsisting between the Suzerain and his vassals, and the contracts made between landlords, and the occupying tenants.

In the present day, the practice, adopted in letting lands, is various, including tenancies at will, tenancies for a term of years, or for a certain number of lives, or for a term of years and lives conjointly, and to these we may add, in rare instances, perpetuities, and toties quoties agreements, for lives renewable for ever. Of the properties held in fee, the greater number in these kingdoms descend to the eldest son, or heir-at-law, except where otherwise arranged, by marriage settlements, or where the power of making a testamentary disposition exists. One curious exception to the customary disposal of property prevails in the manor of Kennington, in Surrey, where the lands descend to the youngest son, and, in default of a male heir, they are divided amongst the daughters.

The land in this county, a few large estates excepted, is in the hands of a very numerous proprietary.

In the parish of Dromore alone, the persons liable to pay rent-charge amount to the large number of 170, a fact accounted for, by its having been a part of the See estate, in which the rents formerly paid were bought up by the lessees in possession.

Various causes have led to the minute division of land, as the underletting of parts of a farm, at a profit rent, the portioning of children, the denseness of the population, and the combination of agricultural with manufacturing pursuits. At the same time, it would be very difficult to determine, in the abstract, what is the most profitable size of a farm. None, however, can be wrought to advantage, which are not of sufficient extent to give constant occupation to a fixed staff of labourers and horses. Excluding spade husbandry, to which separate conditions apply, a farm should be sufficiently large to give steady employment to one, two, four, six,



or eight pairs of horses, as all idle time is to be considered a deduction from the profits of a farm, in proportion to the cost of their keeping. But in point of fact the extent of the farms in this county is very various, many of them being small, and unequal to the support of a family, unless supplemented by other trades and occupations, as will at once appear by reference to the tables at the end of the chapter, showing the number of occupants, and length of leases under each particular tenure, as well as the valuation of the several classes of farms.

In the last census of 1871, the number and extent of the farms in the county are thus enumerated :—7,216 farm holdings under 5 acres ; 6,322 between 5 and 10 acres ; 8,758 between 10 and 20 acres ; 3,940 between 20 and 30 acres ; 4,878 between 30 and 100 acres ; and 401 above 100 acres, of which ten exceeded 1,000 acres, and four 2,000 acres.

Before leaving this part of the subject, we shall briefly allude to the various modes of measuring land prevalent at different periods.

In ancient times, the usual mode of admeasurement was by the ballyboe, *i. e.*, a cowland, sometimes called caruca, from carucata, a plowland, which, in the Bagnal patent, was estimated at three score acres. Three of these measures, viz., 180 acres, formed a quarterland, and four quarterlands, or 720 acres, comprised a Ballybetagh, one-sixth part of which was called a Sessiagh, a term in very common use, in old documents. In the grant to Sir Thomas Smith, the caruca is set down as six score acres, and adopting this standard, the figures here should be doubled. But for a long period the measurements employed have been the Irish Plantation, Scotch Cunningham, or the English statute acre, and it may be stated, in round numbers, that three Irish are about equal to four Scotch, and five English acres.

The proportional value of the three kinds of acres is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.		s.	d.		s.	d.
Irish Acre,	1	0	0	=	Cunningham,	15 11'33	=	English,	1 4'16
Cunningham,	1	0	0	=	English,	15 5'9	=	Irish,	25 1
English,	1	0	0	=	Cunningham,	25 9'9	=	Irish,	32 4'76

## No. 1.—Tenancies at will in the County of Down :—29,045

Leases for 21 years, or under,	597
„ from 21 to 31 years,	252
„ between 31 and 60 years,	83
„ between 60 and 99 years,	193
„ for lives,	1,970
„ for lives or years,	1,411
„ for lives renewable for ever,	638
„ in perpetuity,	715

Together with 508 farms personally occupied by the owners in fee.

No. 2.—The Farms Valued	Under £15.	At £15, and under £30.	At £30, and under £50.	At £50, and under £100.
Tenancies at Will,	19,922	5,313	2,445	1,016
Lease for 21 years, or a less term, ...	223	156	131	65
For a term exceeding 21 years and less than 31, ...	64	80	48	42
For more than 31 years, and not over 60, ...	25	13	16	19
For more than 60 years, and not over 99, ...	17	13	8	14
For a term exceeding 99 years, ...	75	35	29	24
For lives, or for lives and years, ...	877	274	145	
Of lives renewable for ever,	333	138	90	78
Perpetuities, ...	303	149	87	53 107
Totals, ...	22,804	6,752	3,218	1,587

## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### Tenant Customs of Ulster.

By the term tenant customs, we understand certain peculiar arrangements which have gradually grown up between the landlord and tenant, on most of the properties of Ulster, affecting the regulation of the several sorts of tenures, under which the land is occupied.

For a long series of years, differences had taken place between the owners and occupiers of the soil, on the subject, culminating in active and sometimes violent agitation, and in the end, various attempts were made by Sir Joseph Napier, and others, to settle the question by legislation, but without success. Finally, with a view to this end, the Land Bill, 33 and 34 Vic., c. 46, was brought in, and carried through Parliament, by Mr. Gladstone, the Prime Minister of the day, its object being to legalise the various usages, then prevalent throughout Ulster, but the conditions of these customs, vaguely termed tenant-right, involve circumstances so various and complicated, as to render any simple, and accurate definition of them, almost impracticable.

The custom, too, varies much on estates immediately adjoining, and to adopt the words of Lord de Ros, "there are many, which from succession of owners, change of agents, or from the want of order and method in management, have no established usage." To complicate the matter further, difference of opinion has arisen, even as to the actual meaning of the term, when used in the Land Act, as whether it implies the custom on a particular estate, or the general custom of surrounding properties, classified under the extremely indefinite appellation of a district. On some estates, the

landlord gave to the tenant on his removal, a sum fixed by valuation, in other instances he permitted the tenant to sell, at the highest price he could obtain, either by private sale, or, on some properties, by public Auction ; whilst in a third class of cases the permission to sell was limited, by fixing a rate of £5, £10, £20, or £30 which was not to be exceeded by the purchaser, and where no restriction existed, the price obtained sometimes exceeded the value of the fee-simple of the land ; but whatever the arrangement, the consent of the landlord was indispensable to the validity of the sale.

The origin of these customs has led to considerable differences of opinion. Lord Waveney traces it to the charter granted by the monarch to the settlers,\* under which "the tenants who accompanied the immigration did feudal service, and received allocations of sound ground, amid the mosses and bogs," "but neither in the case of military settlement or civil colonization," to borrow further from Lord Waveney, "did a tenant acquire more than the bare soil, for buildings were erected for him by the lord."

"As time went on, and changes of tenancy came about, with the assent of the lord always, natural equity enjoined, and custom affirmed, that the tenant's personal outlay should be held to be his property, and be represented by a value apart from that, incident to the land.

This is the origin in its simplest form of tenant-right, as accepted in my family for 300 years, and with lasting benefit to landlord and tenant. The force of equity will be evident, from the reflection that this tenant-right represents the essential element in the continued security, which the tenant's military service gave to the lord, for the enjoyment of the land, which his labours had recovered from waste and bog."

This view of Lord Waveney appears to be correct, as far as it goes, but it only accounts for one, out of several circumstances, in which the "custom" originated, and if accepted as explanatory of the question generally, it would have the necessary effect

\* *Belfast News-Letter*, 1874.

of excluding all Roman Catholics from any share in the tenant-right. Besides, his Lordship omits altogether, any reference to the extensive tracts of land brought into cultivation under covenant with the owners, for which they found compensation in long leases and very low rents.

On the other hand, another landowner, Mr. Hugh T. Montgomery, describes the price of tenant-right as being composed of several ingredients, including payment for the value of tenants' improvements, not absorbed by the landlord in increased rent, for exemption from giving the highest obtainable rent for the holding, and for security of tenure, with extra payment for the excessive competition for land.

By Lord Lifford, four causes are enumerated, as having been principally influential in establishing the Ulster usages, viz., "the unsettled state of the country, the absence of employment resulting therefrom, which bound the labouring population to the land and the land only, inducing men to give for the good-will or tenant-right of a farm, a sum often more than its fee simple value, the neglect of land agents, who might have had more than they could do, in looking after an estate with, perhaps, 3,000 or 4,000 tenants, and who therefore did nothing, the supineness of landlords, who were content to let their tenants alone, to divide and sub-divide, buy and sell their farms among each other, until rudely awakened by a famine and its consequent pestilence."

But whilst conceding to the views of these gentlemen all the weight, to which they are justly entitled, we may be permitted to say, that they only appear to give a partial and incomplete explanation of the subject, which, however, is too complicated for a full investigation here, and we must, therefore, confine our remarks to an expression of the opinion, that the origin of the claims, which have now assumed the name of tenant-right, cannot be attributed solely to military tenure, feudal arrangements, conditions in the original Crown grants, or improvements effected by the tenants, although each of the assigned causes may have contributed, by degrees, to the formation of a custom, admittedly ex-

ceptional, and in point of fact, it seemed to have grown up silently, and gradually, through the assent of landlords, whether advisedly, or inadvertently given to demands still increasing, as time went on, until the question has assumed the anomalous position, in which it is at present placed. The reader, however, desirous of examining further into the subject, will find various works, devoted to its special consideration, including the writings of Lord de Ros,\* and Messrs. Filgate,† Henderson,‡ and Donnel, and others.

The claims formerly conceded, through the goodwill of the landlord, are now made compulsory, by the Land Act, previously to the passing of which, the only demand, which could legally be urged, was for the emblements of a farm, where the tenant died between the sowing and reaping of the crop. Emblements, as implied in the derivation of the term "*emblavence de bled*," signifying corn sprung up above the ground, strictly denoted the profits of corn, but were practically extended to roots, flax, or other crops, as well as garden produce, not permanent products of the soil, but requiring annual cultivation at the hands of the tenant. For these a strictly legal claim could be advanced, in all cases, where it was not forfeited by a tenant, putting an end to the occupancy, by his own act.

The right to compensation under the Land Act, as now usually urged by a tenant, about to be ejected, is for the amount of loss, difficult to define accurately, to which he may be subjected, by eviction, and for improvements effected in his holding. This latter demand cannot, we think, be fairly refused, where the amount claimed is reasonable, for improvements which really increase the letting value of a farm. But under the law, as it now stands, the tenant is further entitled, to demand remuneration, for what the Land Act terms, disturbance in his holding, a claim of rather an indefinite nature, the fair amount of which it is often difficult to determine. But the most important circumstance is to arrive at an equitable decision, regarding the increased value of

\* Land Act of 1872.      † Tenant-right and the Land Acts.

‡ Ulster Tenant-right.



a farm, resulting from the expenditure of the tenant, and we shall therefore devote a little space to consideration of the question.

The points principally requiring attention, in estimating the value of improvements, are the drainage, fencing, reclamation of waste land, planting, and building. These, as a general rule, have been partly effected by the landlord, and partly by the tenant, in varying proportions on different properties, and in very few instances, by either party alone. But as it is often difficult to assign the respective amounts, effected at the cost of each, the framers of the Land Act have left the question of valuation, in disputed cases, to be fixed by the judges of the Land Court, on such evidence, often very conflicting, as may be brought before them, subject, however, to an appeal, in the first instance, to a going judge of assize, and in the last resort, to the Court of Land Cases Reserved, sitting in Dublin.

The main or arterial drainage has been chiefly carried out by the landlord, either from his own private resources, or more extensively by means of public loans, under the provisions of the Lands Improvement Act, the Labouchere Letter, and the Board of Works, some proprietors charging interest on the money expended, in the shape of an addition to the rent, whilst a few effect the work gratuitously.

With reference to the cross or field drainage, it may be stated that the greater portion is executed by the tenant, but frequently with a certain amount of assistance from the landlords, some of whom contribute to the expense, by giving draining tiles, or money.

Drainage cannot, however, be looked upon as a permanent improvement, for the sewers are liable to become clogged and defective, after a certain lapse of time, the average period of their complete efficiency, probably not exceeding thirty years, and a great deal remains yet to be done, in this direction, in order to raise the productiveness of the soil to the highest limit.

We may, in passing, observe, that drainage is often unskilfully performed, but the essential point in the process, is, in the first

instance, to ascertain the lowest level, and then to lead all the drains, at a proper inclination, in that direction.

It is customary for the landlords to construct the boundary fences between adjacent estates, but as a general rule, the field fencing is executed by the tenant, sometimes assisted by the landlord, in the shape of a reduction of rent, for a certain number of years, or by a direct pecuniary contribution. The usual fence is an earthen bank and ditch, strengthened by a row of hawthorn quicks, occasionally interspersed with forest trees, and in particular districts, furze is employed in the place of thorn. The fences in some places are both ill planned, and badly constructed, though tastefully and well executed in others. The greatest defect, however, is their crookedness and disproportionate numbers, giving a mean appearance to the landscape, and sacrificing much valuable land, so that the greatest improvement practicable would be to remove them altogether, and thereby render available a large quantity of the soil, which is now unproductive. In stony districts, the stone dyke fence is common. The gates, whether of stone or iron, are usually, although not invariably, erected by the tenants, who have the right of removing them, as being what, in legal phrase, are termed moveable fixtures, and the landlord rarely objects. In many districts in the county their more general use appears necessary and desirable.

In some places objection is made to thorn fences and plantations, on account of the harbourage given to birds, which generally however do more good than harm, and the advantage of shelter, to both crops and cattle, should not be overlooked.

In recent times the reclamation of waste lands, has been usually effected by the tenant, but it cannot be said to be exclusively at his cost.

In the case of exhausted bog, the subsoil is the property of the landlord, to which, as he has never been in possession of it, at any time, the tenant could advance no claim. Having, however, executed the labour essential to cultivation, the instances are rare, in which a return for his expenditure has not been made

by the landlord, in giving the occupancy of the land thus reclaimed, at a nominal or comparatively low rent, for varying periods, however, not always sufficient, until the tenant is supposed to be recouped for his outlay. In other instances the landlord pays half the cost of the reclamation, or else gives a fixed pecuniary allowance, for the quarrying and removal of rocks, and the leveling of rough and irregular knolls of ground.

There are no extensive uncultivated wastes, in Down, except on the mountains of Mourne and Iveagh, some parts of which might possibly be reclaimed.

It has been suggested by sanguine projectors, from time to time, that Lough Strangford might be entirely drained, or at all events materially contracted in dimensions and rendered arable, but we do not think the project very feasible, although not perhaps impracticable.

In 1767, the Dublin Society for the encouragement of agriculture and manufactures, offered liberal premiums for the reclamation of bogs, cultivation of wheat, and certain root crops, but no reference was made to flax, although, as if in waggery, £100 was set aside for the collectors of the largest quantities of rags.

In olden times the habitations were few and miserable. Petty tells us, that he found in numerous places, no habitations but moveable *creachts*—viz., dwellings constructed of posts and wattles, or having the side walls and gables made of coarse basket work, the whole of which could be taken up and fixed in a new site.

Subsequently to the settlement of Ulster, a better class of buildings succeeded, constructed according to the ideas of the different residents.

The English settlers, adopting the style of their native country, erected their houses to the height of two stories, with sash-windows and roofs of slate.

The Scotch limited their buildings to one story, having glazed leaden windows, and coverings of thatch, whilst the Irish were content with cabins, sometimes built of mud, which,

though humble in appearance, were still a marked improvement on the creaghts, which preceded them.

Early in this century, Dubourdieu describes the farm-houses, in Down, as consisting of a low cottage, containing a kitchen and two or three rooms on the ground floor, opening into each other, without apartments overhead, and seldom containing any fire-places, except in the kitchen, those in the other rooms having been shut up, on account of the hearth-money tax.

But striking improvements have since taken place, in the planning of houses of every description, and none of any pretensions are now constructed without closets, baths, and increased facilities for cleanliness, comfort, and effective ventilation. A corresponding change, for the better, has also extended to farm-houses, and the various offices annexed to them, slated roofs having gradually superseded thatching with straw. In the farm-yards of many of the gentry, the out-buildings are of a superior description, the practice of giving food to cattle, at the head, being pretty generally introduced, and in some establishments the pig-styes are so constructed that the animal, is prevented from putting his feet in the trough, and thereby injuring his food.

As neither grain crops nor hay are housed, in this country, the barns are consequently not proportional in size, to those in England, but much improvement has been effected, in the formation of the stands, which now preserve the grain more effectually from vermin, than when it is housed, and in the erection of hay sheds.

The stables, except in first-class establishments, however, are still very defective.

The cottages of the labourers are, in many districts, poor, and largely demand improvement, in space, neatness, and ventilation, beneficial objects, which we may hope to see effected, now that public attention has been strongly directed to the subject.

But, whether of better or worse description, the farmhouses and offices are, on most estates, built and kept in repair, by the tenants, although often assisted, by the proprietors to a certain extent,

sometimes amounting to one-fourth, or one-half of the cost. In individual cases, and on a few properties, the buildings have been altogether erected by the landlord, but this was generally followed by an increase of rent, to the amount of fair interest on the outlay.

Partly owing to the recent low prices of home-grown timber, no extensive plantations are observable in late years, though a considerable quantity of detached, homestead, and ornamental planting has been effected, on various estates; and some districts are now pretty well wooded, especially the valleys along the Lagan and the Bann.

Most of the larger demesnes are ornamented with planting, arranged both in extensive belts, and sheltering clumps, as may be seen in the woods of Hillsborough Castle, Mount Stewart, Castleward, Tollymore Park, Seaforde House, Mountpanther, Portaferry House, Gillhall, Mourne Park, Narrow-water Castle, Castlewellan, Donard Lodge, and a few other places.

Boate, in his day, adverted to the scarcity of trees, saying "that from Newry as far as Dromore, we did not come near any woods."

With very trifling exceptions, no important planting has been effected by the tenant in this county, although it occurs to a limited extent, usually for the purpose of shelter, in some cases, encouraged by the contribution of young trees, on the part of the landlord, but in many localities the farms are too small, and the land too valuable, to admit of much planting. The trees, moreover, are the property of the landlord, the tenant not even having the right of estover, or taking the timber necessary for his holding. The landlord may, therefore, if he think fit, appropriate it all to his own use. It is obvious that this arrangement is calculated to create dissatisfaction, and arrest improvement.

Various Acts have, however, been passed to protect the tenant, in this respect, but some have fallen altogether into abeyance, and even the most recent, the 5 Geo. III. c. 17, the Registration Act, by which the tenant could retain his property in the trees



planted by him, at the cost of a few shillings, has been very little acted upon. It is apparent, however, on the other hand, that serious loss might accrue to the landlord, from an unrestricted right of cutting timber, as the land might, thereby, be left in an unproductive state, a contingency deserving of attention in making any alteration in the law.

We shall only add, that the Land Act has not been long enough in operation, to enable us to judge positively of its ultimate results, but, so far, it has given rise to much litigation, harassing alike to the landlord and tenant, arising, in some cases, from the former refusing to give adequate compensation, for improvements, and in very many instances, from extravagant claims put forward, under injudicious advice, by the latter, which on investigation, in the courts of law, are frequently reduced to one-half, and sometimes one-fourth of the original demand. Owing to whatever causes, however, clamorous agitation has already arisen, for an alteration of the law, but my object being merely to give an historical sketch of the subject, I do not feel called on, to enter at large into an examination of the various complex and conflicting views, by which it is encumbered, which would necessarily require much more space, than I have at my disposal.

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## PART VI.

# NATURAL HISTORY.

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### CHAPTER XXXVIII.

#### ZOOLOGY.

##### Mammalia, Animals.

MOST of the animals known in Great Britain are common here, though several are wanting, including the field vole, the bank vole, the neglected vole, the common dormouse, and to these may be added the wild ox, (*bos taurus*), still to be seen, at Chillingham Castle, the common toad, the loggerhead turtle, the green lizard, the blind or slow worm, the ringed snake, the viper or adder, the mole, and the various species of ophidia, or serpents. Animals, observed in other parts of Ireland, but not included in the Fauna of the County of Down, comprise the squirrel, the reddish gray bat, the common shrew of Great Britain, the red deer, the bottle-nosed dolphin, the spermaceti whale, the high-finned chacalot, and the natter jack toad. Many of the Cheiroptera are not known here at all, and Daubenton's bat is very rare, whilst the pipistrelle or common bat, and the long-eared bat, are met with everywhere.

The orders *Feræ* and *Bestiæ* have both several representatives, and amongst the former the Hedgehog (*Erinaceus Europæus*) is somewhat destructive, as it devours both leverets and chickens.

Order *Bestiæ*.—The Badger (*Meles Taxus*), a creature of carnivorous propensities, well described in St. John's Wild Sports,

occurs in Tollymore Park, and other suitable localities. The Shrew-mouse (*Sorex Rusticus*) is also common.

The Black Rat (*Mus Rattus*) is now very rare. It probably came from the East, and specimens, having white breasts, are occasionally seen. Thompson describes a variety, having a white breast, as a distinct species, under the name of *Mus Hibernicus*, its distinctive marks being a white spot on the breast, white fore-feet, and a short tail. The Brown or common rat (*Mus decumanus*) also came from the East, about the beginning of the eighteenth century. Mr. Sinclair, of Belfast, states that three-fourths of the young broods are males, and as a general rule, they certainly far exceed the females in number.

The Rodentia, or rat tribe, are particularly distinguished by the chisel-shaped structure of their incisor teeth, which are adapted alike for cutting or gnawing.\*

Of the Felidæ, or Cat tribe, the Wild Cat (*Felis Catus*) is said to have been observed in Tollymore Park, but if now extant at all, it is extremely rare. The Fox (*Vulpes Vulgaris*) is still found, although in diminished numbers, in the same place, and in the Mourne Mountains. The Squirrel (*Sciurus Vulgaris*) is unknown in Down. The long-tailed Field Mouse (*Mus Sylvaticus*) is very destructive in gardens, and the common Mouse (*Mus Musculus*) is too well known to require description.

The Otter (*Lutra Vulgaris*), which inhabits the banks of rivers, caves, and holes in the rocks, around the coast, is one of the most destructive species of the Carnivora, devouring fish, in large quantities which, however, it can be trained to catch for its master.

The Stoat (*Mustela Erminea*). — When collected in numbers, these animals have been known to make formidable attacks even upon man. Both the Stoat and Weasel are susceptible of being tamed. In this county, the Stoat is generally called Weasel, but the existence of the latter here is doubtful. It is a very formidable enemy to rats and mice. The Ermine and Stoat are the same

\* Rhymer Jones, in *Cyclopedia of Practical Anatomy*.

species, but in this county, although the skin changes its hue to greater or less extent, it never becomes sufficiently white to render it of any commercial value.

The Polecat, Fitchew, or Foulmartin, (*Mustela Putorius*), is very rarely met with, but two specimens were killed at Greyabbey many years ago. It is a most deadly enemy to rats, fish, poultry, and game of all descriptions.

The Rabbit (*Lepus Cuniculus*) is common both in bush, and warren. The fecundity of the rabbit is so extraordinary, that if all the young lived, the produce might be counted by millions, but many of them are devoured by the male parent, and numbers without end, by birds and beasts of prey.

The Common or Beech Marten (*Martes Forinas*), is found in Hillsborough, Tollymore, and Belvoir Parks, and some other places. In the reign of Charles I., Lord Deputy Stafford described a marten to be of as much worth as a wether. This fierce creature has been known to destroy twenty-one lambs in a single night. The skins of this animal, so late as the sixteenth century, were an article of commerce, as stated by Peter Lombard.\* The Beech Marten is distinguishable from the Pine Marten, or Martern, by the white tint of the fur on its throat, and the upper portion of its breast. A skin of this animal, of the best quality, is not much inferior to sable. The Marten is susceptible of being domesticated.

The Càing Whale (*Phocaena Melas*) is rare. Specimens have, however, been occasionally observed at Ballyholme Bay, near Bangor, and elsewhere. The Common Whale, variously called the Greenland, the Right, or the Northern Whale (*Balaena Mysticetus*), furnishes the whalebone, or baleen, which is found at the insertion of the jaws. The Rorqual (*Balaenoptera Boops*) has been observed at Annalong, and other parts of the eastern coast, and one specimen has been caught in Strangford Lough.† This gigantic creature sometimes attains the immense length of one

\* De Regno Hibernico, insula Sanctorum.

† Thompson, vol. iv., p. 60.

hundred feet, and occasionally even of one hundred and twenty.

The Red Deer no doubt existed at one period in the County of Down, but it has long been extinct there. In Payne's "Brefe description of Ireland (1589), we are informed that the price of a fat Pigge, was 1s., one lb. of Butter, or 2 gallons of new milke, a penny; a *reede deare*, without the skinne, 2s. 6d.; a fat Beefe, 13s. 4d.; and a fat mutton, 18d.:" a very curious illustration of the comparative value of these animals, in former days.

The Fallow Deer (*Cervus Dama*), in the wild state, has been long extinct. It is easily distinguished from the stag, by its spotted coat. It does not appear certain whether it is indigenous, but the prevalent belief is, that it was imported from the South of Europe, or Western Asia.

The Roe Deer (*Cervus Capreolus*) was never known to have inhabited Ireland. It is curious that this creature, being strictly monogamous, does not live in herds, like the other races of deer.

The Fossil, or Gigantic Irish Deer (*Cervus Megacerus*, or *Hibernicus*), and the Fossil Elk (*Cervus Alces*), if ever indigenous, have long ceased to exist. There is no mention of it in any writer, and it is only known from the skeletons found in various places.\*

The following animals, formerly prevalent, have been long extinct:—

The Bear (*Ursus Arctos*) may have been indigenous, but the proofs are not conclusive.†

The Wolf (*Canis Lupus*) formerly existed in great numbers, and they were not finally extirpated until the beginning of the eighteenth century. According to Campion, wolves were objects

\* See Professor Owen's History of British Mammalia, and Dr. Scouler's Remarks on the Natural History of the British Fossil Elk, in the Journal of the Geological Society, vol. i., p. 197.

† Observations of Dr. R. Ball, in Transactions of Royal Irish Academy, 1849, on the Skulls of Bears found in Ireland.

of the chase, but laws were frequently passed for their extirpation. The Wolf Dog, employed in their pursuit, is now also extinct.

The following sums were offered, in past times, for the destruction of the wolf, viz. :—" For every bitch woulfe, six pounds ; every dog woulfe, five pounds ; every cubb that 'prayeth,' forty shillings ; and for every surly wolf, ten shillings : " and it was prohibited by law to export any of the herd of wolf dogs, on account of their usefulness in hunting down the ferocious animals, from which they took their name.

The Wild Boar (*Sus Scrofa*) was also once abundant, and continued so, down to the end of the 17th century. The date of its extinction, however, has not been accurately ascertained.

The Common Hare of Great Britain does not probably occur in Ireland, although both the Irish Hare (the *Lepus Hibernicus* of Bell), and the Alpine Hare (the *Lepus Variabilis* of Pallas), are very common.

A minute description of the points of difference between the British and Irish varieties may be found in the admirable work of Thompson, on the Natural History of Ireland.

The Domesticated Animals occurring in the county include the various species of the Dog, the Cat, the Guinea Pig, the Rabbit, the Ferret, the Ass, the Jennet, the Ox, the Sheep, the Hog, and the Goat ; all of which, except the first five, are described in other parts of the work.

The varieties of the Dog tribe are very numerous, but they are probably all descended from one species, the Thibet Dog (*Canis Familiaris*), a few specimens of which have been brought to England.

The great Danish Dog (Plum-pudding, or Coach Dog), though employed in its native country as a pointer, is here merely kept on account of his handsome spotted appearance.

The Greyhound, when of unmixed blood, is not of a very determined character, but by crossing with the bulldog, the necessary amount of courage and endurance is obtained. The

Irish is much rougher than the English dog, and it was, in former days, much employed in hunting the wild boar and the wolf. Scrope, in his "Art of Deer-stalking," alleges that the Irish wolf dog, the Highland deer hound, and the Scotch and Irish greyhound, are identical, but the Scotch greyhound, unlike the Irish species, hunts his prey partly by the scent.

The Bloodhound, in Britain, is chiefly employed in deer shooting.

The Otter Hound was formerly employed in Wales, for hunting the hare, and thence termed the Welsh Harrier, but it is now exclusively employed for pursuing the otter.

The Boar Hound is the result of a crossing with the mastiff, greyhound, or terrier, from which it derives respectively the necessary qualities of muscular power, speed, and acuteness of scent: but it is now merely kept as an object of curiosity.

The Bulldog is, perhaps, (the gamecock excepted), the most courageous animal in the world, and its appearance, ferocity, strength, and tenacity of gripe, are universally known.

The Mastiff is the largest and most powerful of the British indigenous dogs, remarkable alike for his courage, placidity of temper, and fidelity as a watch dog.

The Terrier tribe includes four generally received breeds, viz., the English, Scotch, Skye, and Toy Terrier. A cross with a bulldog is necessary to give the required courage to the Skye terrier.

The Scotch Terrier will attack with equal determination a fox, a rat, or any other kind of vermin, and a spirited description of its qualities may be found in Sir Walter Scott's account of the Dandie Dinmont, or pepper and mustard breed.\*

The Bulldog Terrier is a cross between the two animals after which it is named, and it is remarkable alike for its intelligence, aptitude to learn, keenness of scent, quickness of eye, and indomitable courage.

The Skye Terrier is an amusing and clever little creature, most faithful, affectionate, and vigilant, as a watch dog.

\* Guy Mannering.



The Turnspit, since the discovery of the various means of roasting meat, has nearly disappeared, his services being no longer required.

The Pug Dog is merely in favour, as a toy dog, and a perfectly fine specimen will bring the large price of £20 or £30.

Dwarf or Rabbit Beagles are so very small, that, in some instances, the pack has been conveyed to the hunting-ground in hampers, slung over the back of a horse, or simply in the shooting-pockets of the attendants, thus reserving their strength for the toils of the chase.

The Italian Greyhound is only kept as a pet or toy-dog.

The Lurcher is produced by a cross between the greyhound and sheep dog, and is remarkable alike for beauty, speed, scent, and intelligence.

The Newfoundland Dog is much prized for its great size, kindly and faithful disposition, and other valuable qualities.

There are two species, the larger or Newfoundland dog proper, and another, something smaller, called the Labrador dog, or St. John's dog. By crossing the setter and the Labrador dog, we obtain one kind of retriever, and another, by a cross between a water spaniel and terrier. A third and smaller breed is the produce of the terrier and beagle.

The Pomeranian Fox Dog, familiarly termed Loup Loup, somewhat resembles the Esquimaux dog. It is handsome, intelligent, and a good companion.

The English and Scotch Setters were so called from their former habit of crouching or setting, on seeing their game, but they now stand to their birds in the same way as the pointer.

The Sheep Dog, remarkable for its marvellous intelligence, memory, and energy, is probably the original ancestor of the true British dogs. The Scotch sheep dog is familiarly called the colley.

The Drover Dog, a cross between the sheep dog and mastiff, or fox hound, is also an animal of the most wonderful sagacity.

The troublesome Cur derived from the sheep dog and terrier is worthy of no notice.

Of the Field Spaniels there are two descriptions. the Springer and the Cocker, from the latter of which the Blenheim and King Charles spaniels derive their origin.

Varieties of the Cocker are the English, Welsh, and Devonshire.

The Blenheim Spaniel is a most vigilant and noisy watch-dog, and cannot be quieted on the approach of strange steps.

Of the Toy Dogs, the Maltese enjoys a large share of favour, and by a cross between this variety and the poodle, we obtain the lion dog, excelled by none in obedience and intelligence.

The Barker is merely a small and noisy variety of the poodle.

The large St. Bernard's Dog, distinguished for its great intelligence and sagacity, is sometimes to be seen here, as well as the tiniest of the dog family, the Mexican Lapdog, which is of no use, being merely an object of curiosity.

I am not aware that there any foxhounds in the county, but greyhounds, spaniels, and harriers of great excellence are sufficiently common in the county. The number of mongrels, many of them useless, is, however, quite too great, and might be diminished without any detriment.

The dog is generally a healthy animal, but it is subject to some serious maladies, amongst which hydrophobia or canine madness is the most terrible.

The Domestic Cat (*Felis Domestica*), is a descendant of the wild cat. It was once very rare, though so common now. In the time of Howel, King of Wales, on account of the scarcity and utility of the cat, laws were passed for its protection, and the regulation of its value. At that time the price of a kitten, before it could see, was a penny, and after it had caught a mouse, two pence. There are many varieties, the most noted being the Tabby, the Tortoiseshell, the Chartreux (of a bluish colour), and the silky-haired Angora.

Guinea Pigs are rare, and the same may be said of tame rabbits

and ferrets. These last are creatures of great fierceness and courage, attacking the rat without hesitation, and usually coming off victorious.

The Aquatic Mammalia, the Phocidæ or Seal family, are of very common occurrence. The Seal (*Phoca Vitulina*) frequents the loughs of Carlingford and Strangford. The animal is about five feet in length, possessed of great strength, and very destructive of fish. The Grey Seal (*Halichaerus Grifhus*) is occasionally met with, and it is very common on the rocks near Ballywalter. Seal shooting is an exciting sport, requiring great steadiness of nerve, quickness of aim, and a heavy missile, as the creature is very tenacious of life.

Of the Cetaceous tribe, the Common Dolphin, (*Delphinus Delphi*) is not uncommon. It is about six to ten feet in length, and it was of old classified as a fish, and allowed to be eaten in Lent, being then esteemed a great luxury, a character which, however, it has now lost. It has as many as two hundred sharp-pointed teeth, and it destroys large quantities of fish.

The Porpoise, or porpesse, from the French *porc poisson* or Hog-fish, is frequent, especially along the Newcastle coast. The creature is gregarious, and also very destructive.

The Grampus, so called from the French *Grand poisson* (*Phocena Orca*), occasionally visits the coast of Down. It is of very large dimensions, being from twenty to thirty feet in length, and most voracious, destroying fish, especially cod, skate, and holibut, in immense quantities.

Of the Chelonians or Tortoises (*Testudines*), the Common or Viviparous lizard (*Zootoca Vivipara*), is not infrequent. Reptiles of this class are very remarkable for their peculiar anatomical construction, in having the bones of the chest, placed externally to the muscles, thus forming a complete suit of armour, the dorsal part of which, termed the carapax, affords points of insertion to a number of the muscles.

The Common Frog (*Rana Temporaria*) was brought to Ireland at the close of the 17th century, by Dr. Guithers, a Fellow of

Trinity College, Dublin, though Dubourdieu refers its introduction to a later date. They are now extremely numerous, so that the verses of St. Donatus, Bishop of Etruria, are no longer applicable.

"Nec conquesta canit, garrula rana lacu."\*

Though occurring in great abundance, they are not used for the table, in this kingdom.

The Common or Great Water Newt (*Triton Cristatus*) has been observed, although rarely; and the Palmated or Smooth Newt (*Lissotriton Palmipes*) is known in many parts of the kingdom, although I am not aware whether it has been seen in Down.

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\* Camden's "Britannia," Gough's Edition, vol. iv., p. 234.

## CHAPTER XXXIX.

### Ornithology. Birds.

THE peculiar anatomical structure of birds, accounts for their wonderful powers of swimming, diving, and sustained flight. The temperature of their bodies, clothed in a warm covering of feathers, is higher than that of the mammalia, varying from  $103^{\circ}$  to  $107^{\circ}$ .<sup>\*</sup> Their power of flying depends on the curious construction of their wing or forearm, which is furnished with feathers of varied size and form, admirably adapted for the purpose. Some of these are attached to the ulnar side of the hand, and others to the forearm, receiving respectively, the names of primaries, secondaries, and wingcoverts. The feathers of the thumb are designated *spuriæ*, or bastard feathers, and the scapularies lie over the forearm. The respiratory system is so constructed as to admit of the entrance of air into the cavities of the bones, and thus, by making the body specifically light, increasing the capacity for remaining lengthened periods on the wing. The organs of vision are also adapted with admirable contrivance, to the peculiar habits of the several species, enabling the night-jar and owl, to pursue their prey in the dark, whilst the lens of the eye in pigeons and other migratory birds, is so adjusted by the ciliary muscle, that they unerringly find their way through the trackless firmament. By a similar organ-ism, birds of rapine, whilst soaring in mid-air, can descry their quarry at any distance, however near, or far removed. At the same time, rapidity of flight and endurance on the wing, of some

<sup>\*</sup> Owens in the *Cyclopædia of Anatomy*, article, *Aves*.

species is astonishing, flying, as they do, at the rate of one hundred and fifty miles in the hour. There is still a further peculiarity, to which we shall advert, viz.: the faculty possessed by roosting birds of sitting, when asleep, securely on their perch, without the slightest effort, a faculty depending on the involuntary bending of the claws, effected by the peculiar construction and arrangement of the muscles of the part, and the goose, in like manner, when asleep, can stand without risk of falling, owing to an analogous anatomical organization. Various circumstances affect the geographical distribution of this class of animated nature, including the nature of the climate, the extent of woodland, the varieties of food, and the state of cultivation and drainage of the soil. The several kinds of birds, inhabiting the County of Down, do not materially differ from those met with in other parts of the kingdom. Of these, some are permanently resident, and others migratory, remaining with us only part of the season. Their food is either animal or vegetable, or a combination of both, according to their different natures, but the injury which they do to fruits and grain, is well compensated by their destruction of aphides, insects, slugs, worms, and snails. The classes of the feathered tribes known to the county, are Raptores, ravening birds, Incessores, perchers, Rasores, scraping birds, Grallatores, waders, Natatores, swimmers, and Cursores, or running birds. Each order is further subdivided into families, the Raptores, for instance, comprising the Falconidæ or Falcons, and the Strigidæ, or Owls. The Raptores include in the family of Falconidæ, the Golden, and the Sea, or White-tailed Eagle, the Peregrine Falcon, the Merlin, the Kestrel or Windhover, the Henharrier, the Rough-legged Buzzard, the Honey Buzzard, the Marsh Harrier, Dutch Hawk, or Whiteheaded Harpy, the Sparrow Hawk, and the Buzzard, or Puttock. The Strigidæ comprise the Short-eared Owl, the White, or Barn Owl, and the Snowy Owl. Rats, mice, and small birds are destroyed in numbers, by the different species of Raptores. A specimen of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila Chrysaetos*), has been shot within recent years, at the



Mourne Mountains, although the bird is now extinct in England, and a specimen of the Sea or White-tailed Eagle, *Falco Ossifraga*, was killed in the neighbourhood of Dundrum, which weighed ten pounds and a half, the spread of the wings from tip to tip exceeding seven feet. The Eagle is monogamous, and the same pair will live together, for many years. The Peregrine, Pilgrim, or Passenger Falcon, *Falco Peregrinus*, breeds in the Mourne mountains. It was much prized for the sport of hawking, and it is a beautiful sight to see it, in pursuit of its quarry, "climbing the air," and rising higher and higher, until lost to human sight. The Merlin, *Falco Aesilon*, called, in the palmy days of heraldry, the Lady's Hawk, also breeds in the Mourne mountains. This courageous and beautiful little bird has been observed, in hawking phrase, "to stoop to, and put down both woodquests and pigeons." "Merlyns, says the Book of Falconrie, assuredly become passing good hawks, and verie skilful. They flee more hotely, and are of greater pleasure than any other hawke of prey, being full of courage." It is a peculiarity of this bird, instantly to destroy the prey which it has captured, and it is worthy of remark, that amongst ravening birds, the Merlin alone excepted, the female is larger than the male, which she frequently devours. The Kestrel or Windhover (*Falco Tinnunculus*), usually builds on inaccessible cliffs, but in one instance it was known to place its nest, undeterred by the sound of the bells, on the tower of Ballylesson Church.

The Hen Harrier, or Seagull Lark, (*Circus Cyaneus*), known by the various appellations of White Hawk, Dovecoloured Falcon, Blue Hawk, and White Kite, has been observed in the mountains of Mourne, and some other places in the County.

A writer in the *Quarterly Review*, in commenting on Scrope's Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing, describes it "as the worst of the family, and the most difficult to be destroyed, for living wholly on birds of its own killing, it will come to no laid bait, and hunting in the open country, he is rarely approached near enough to be shot. Skimming low, with gliding flight, and quartering his ground

like a well-trained pointer, he finds almost every bird, and with sure aim strikes down all he finds." The sexes differ so much in colour as long to have been confounded for different species.

Specimens of the Roughlegged Buzzard (*Buteo Lagopus*), have been killed at Dundonald, Killinchy, and Castlewellan demesne, but it is very rarely seen.

The Honey Buzzard (*Falco Apivorus*), is only a scarce summer visitant. Buffon describes this bird as "fat and delicious eating," but it is never used at table, in this country.

The Marsh Harrier or Moor Buzzard (*Circus Aeruginosus*). Some years ago, nests of this species of hawk were found in Island Mahee, in the Lough of Strangford, but it is not common.

The Buzzard, or Puttock (*Falco Buteo*), occurs in various wooded demesnes, as it builds in the trees, in Hillsborough, Belvoir, and Tollymore Parks, where it is known by the name of kite or glead.

The order of Insectores, is very numerous, including in the families of Lanidae, or Shrikes, the Great Grey Shrike, and in the Muscicapidae or Flycatchers, the spotted Flycatcher, or beam-bird, and the waterousel, the majority of species being resident, though some are migratory, and others are both. The great grey Shrike, or ash-coloured butcher bird (*Lanus Excelsior*), variously called the murdering pie and mountain magpie, is the Wierangle of the north of England. The order of Insectores further comprises in the family of Merulidae, or Thrushes, the Missel Thrush, Fieldfare, Redwing, Blackbird, and Golden Oriole; in the (*Sylviadæ*), the Hedge Sparrow, Redbreast, Whinchat, Wheatear, Grasshopper, Warbler, Sedge Warbler, Blackcap, Whitethroat, Willowwren, Chiffchaff, Reedwren, Garden Warbler, Gold-crested Wren, Great Tit, Bluebonnet, Coal Tit, and Long-tailed Tit; in the (*Motacillidae*), or Wagtails, the common Wagtail, Grey Wagtail, Yellow Wagtail, and White Wagtail; in the (*Anthidæ*) or Pipits, the Meadow Pipit, or Titlark, and Rockpipit, or Rocklark, and in the (*Ampelidæ*) or Waxwings, the Bohemian Waxwing, in the (*Alaudidæ*) or Larks, the Skylark, Woodlark, and Crested Lark; in the (*Emberizidae*)

or Buntings, the Snow Bunting, Tawny or Mountain Bunting, Snow Flake, or Cherry-creeper of Ruddy, Common Bunting, Yellow Bunting, and Black-cap or Reed Bunting; in the (Fringillidae) or Finches, the Chaffinch, Mountain Finch, House Sparrow, Green Linnet, Hawfinch, Goldfinch, Siskin, Greylinnet, Lesser Redpole, Mountain Linnet, Bullfinch, and Cross bill; in the (Sturnidae) or Starlings, the Starling and Rose-coloured Pastor; in the (Corvidae) or Crows, the Chough, Raven, Carrion Crow, Grey Crow, Rook, Jackdaw, and Magpie; in the (Picidae) or Woodpeckers the Great Spotted, Woodpecker, and Treecreeper, in the (Certhiidae) or Wrens, the common Wren; in the (Upupidae), the Hoopoe; in the (Cuculidae), or Cuckoos, the Cuckoo; in the (Halcyonidae), the King Fishers; in the (Hirundinidae) or Swallow, the common Swallows, House Martin, and Common Swift; in the (Caprimulgidae) or Goatsuckers, the Night Jar; in the (Columbidae) the Ringdove, Woodquest, or Cushat Pigeon, and Turtledove; in the (Phasianidae), the Pheasant, and Golden Pheasant; in the (Gallinidae), the domestic fowls, Guinea Fowl, or (Pintado), Turkey, and Pea Fowl; and in the (Tetraonidae), or the Grouse tribe, the Red Grouse, Gorcock, or Moorgame, common Partridge, and common Quail.

Specimens of the Bohemian Waxwing, or Waxen Chatterer, (*Bombycilla Garrula*), have been seen in Tollymore Park, on the Castlereagh Hills, and in Ballymacarret. This bird is remarkable for the plumelets of its wings, with their wax-like adornments of scarlet hue. The Missel Thrush is indiscriminate in collecting materials for its nest, as in one visible from the window, at which I am writing, is to be seen, amongst various miscellaneous articles, the white lace cuff of a lady's dress.

The Skylark or Common Lark (*Alauda Arvensis*), is much admired for its cheerful melody. In winter the indigenous flocks are usually reinforced by others coming from Scotland. Pure white, and black specimens are occasionally observed.

The Golden Oriole (*Oriolus Galbula*), is an occasional visitant. On one occasion, a pair were observed near Donaghadee, and the female was shot.

The Sedge Warbler (*Salaricaria Phragmites*), is chiefly heard on summer nights, and hence designated the Irish Nightingale.

The Black Cap, or Black Cap Warbler (*Curruca Atricapilla*), is rare, but a specimen was shot many years ago near Holywood. It is one of the sweetest of all our songsters, and possesses the curious power of mimicking other birds, most accurately.

The Redbreast, Robin, or Ruddock (*Erythaca Rubecula*), is familiar and interesting to all young readers of the *Babes in the Wood* and the death and burial of Cock Robin.

The Hawfinch or Grosbeak (*Loxia Coccothraustes*), occasionally visits us in the winter. Specimens have been shot in the vicinity of Hillsborough Castle, and Bryansford.

The Bullfinch, Alp, or Nope (*Loxia Pyrrhula*), has been seen at Tollymore Park, Rostrevor, and other wooded districts. Its call-note and song are plaintive. The caged bullfinch, if fed much on hempseed, is particularly liable to become black, and from its head being of this hue, it has been called monk or pope, and in Scotland, "coally hood."

The Crossbill (*Loxia Curvirostra*), occasionally breeds in this kingdom, and it has been observed in small flocks at Hillsborough, Tollymore Park, Finnebrogue, Dundrum, and Killough. It is an object of much interest from the very peculiar formation of its bill. In the sixteenth century these birds were considered "very good meate," their flesh being "sufficiently savoury and delicate."

The occurrence of the two-banded crossbill (*Loria Bifasciata*) in Down, is questionable.

The Starling or Stare (*Sturnus*) is a very handsome, sprightly bird. Starlings flock in very large numbers, and are often to be seen, with flights of rooks, redwings, or fieldfares.

The Rose-coloured Pastor, the Rose-coloured Starling, Ouzel, or Thrush (*Pastor Roseus*), has been occasionally shot about Donaghadee, Hillsborough, and Bangor.

Corvidæ or Crows.—The Chough or Cornish Chough, Red-legged Jackdaw, or Crow, "the Cliffdaw" of the County Kerry (*Fregilus*

Græculus), is stated to breed on Scatrick, and Mahee islands, in the Lough of Strangford. It may be at once recognised by its black plumage, orange legs and bill, and its lively and cheerful note.

The Raven (*Corvus Corax*) is more than a match for the gamecock, usually proving the victor, by acting on the defensive, until it can succeed in laying hold of the head of its antagonist, which it crushes in its powerful beak, and ends the contest.

The habits of the bird are pourtrayed, in a very entertaining manner, by Waterton,\* Jardine,† Audubon, Selby, and a writer in *Blackwood's Magazine*, in the volume for 1826. The graphic description of Dickens will at once occur to every reader of "Barnaby Rudge."

The Rook (*Corvus Frugilegus*) lives in large assemblages, in rookeries. White specimens are not very unusual, so that the proverb, as black as a crow, does not always hold good. Its habits are described, in a very interesting manner, in White's History of Selborne, Jesse's Gleanings, Washington Irvine's Bracebridge Hall, Mr. M'Gillivray's work on Birds, and in *Tait's Magazine*, for 1848.

The Branchers, or young Rooks, when able to fly, are shot in great numbers, and occasionally cooked, in the form of pies, but not so generally in Ireland, as in England.

The Magpie, or Pianet (*Corvus Pica*), a bold and impudent bird, was introduced into this country, more than two hundred years ago. A reward for its destruction was formerly offered in the Irish Statutes.‡

The description of Derrick, in Queen Elizabeth's time, is not without countenance, from deeds of later times.

" No pies to pluck the thatch from house  
Are breed in Irish ground ;  
But worse than pies, the same to burne,  
A thousand may be found."§

\* Essay on Natural History.

† British Birds.

‡ 17 Geo. II., chap. 10.

§ Image of Ireland, vol. 1, p. 337.



In 1589, Robert Payne, in his "Brife Description of Ireland," says :—"There is neither mol, pye, or carren crow in that kingdom." This bird has great facility in acquiring human speech. Cambrensis says, that in his day, towards the end of the twelfth century, there were no partridges, pheasants, nightingales. or magpies, in Ireland.

The Capercaillie or Wood Grouse (*Tetrao Urogallus*) is said by Giraldus\* to have been more common in our native forests, in the twelfth century, than the red grouse, which had been long extinct ; but since the recent increase of the pine plantations, in Scotland, this magnificent bird has been re-introduced with success, and is increasing rapidly.

It is questionable whether the Black Grouse, or Black Game (*Tetrao Tetrix*), was ever indigenous in Ireland, but, at all events, it is no longer so. The cock is black, but the hen is of the colour of the partridge. These birds have, on various occasions, been brought over from Scotland into the County of Antrim, but they are not known to have propagated there.

The Red Grouse, Redgame, Moorgame, Gorcock, Moorcock (*Tetrao Scoticus*), is now rare in this County, although still found on the Mourne and Slieve Croob mountains. Specimens, almost entirely white, have sometimes been killed. The excellence of the bird for the table is testified by the celebrated Locke, who says, "Railes and heathpolts, ruffles and reeves, are excellent meat, whenever they can be met with." Until recently, the 20th of August was the first day for grouse shooting, in Ireland, but it has been changed to the twelfth of that month, as in England. Berwick says, the red grouse is unique, in never having been met with anywhere else, than in the British Islands.†

The Common Partridge (*Tetrao Perdix*) is found in considerable numbers. A curious difference in the habits of the Scotch and

\* *Topographia Hiberniæ.*

† Vol. 1, p. 341. Tracts relating to Ireland, published by the Dublin Archaeological Society.



Irish partridge, is well ascertained. The Irish covey usually springs in silence, but the Scotch, when put up, shrieks loudly and it is worthy of remark, that every bird has been shot, successively, in an Irish, but never in a Scotch covey.

The Common Quail (*Tetrao Coturnix*), from its peculiar call, locally termed, "wet my foot," is a summer visitant, although many remain throughout the winter. Robert Payne describes the quail and woodcock as having been so abundant in Ireland, about three centuries ago, that a dozen of the former might be purchased for 3d., and of the latter, for 4d. The quail is generally held to be polygamous, an opinion which Mr. Thompson does not consider correct, at all events, as regards this County, and persons best acquainted with its habits say, that it regularly pairs.

Of the Greater Spotted Woodpecker, (*Picus Major*), one specimen, at least, has been shot at Castlereagh.

The Tree Creeper (*Certhia Familiaris*) is interesting, as being the only *zogodactyle* bird indigenous to the island.

*Certhidæ* or The Wrens.—The Common Wren (*Motacilla Troglodytes*) is general throughout the county; but the cruel sport of hunting this poor little bird, on St. Stephen's Day, so common in the southern parts of the kingdom, is here unknown. An account of this custom may be found in Dr. William Drummond's *Rights of Animals*, and in Mr. and Mrs. S. C. Hall's *Ireland*.

*Upupidæ* or Hoopoes.—The Hoopoe, *Upupa Epops* is of occasional, but rare appearance in Down, yet specimens have been shot at Kirkcubbin, Banbridge, and Portaferry.

The Cuckoo, or Gowk (*Cuculus Canorus*).—The advent, sojourn, and departure of this favourite bird, with which there are so many pleasing associations, are well described, in the simple and beautiful poem of Logan.

The Kingfisher (*Alcedo Ispida*) is seen occasionally, on the banks of the Lagan, and other streams, in autumn and winter. Specimens of this handsome bird have been shot at Downpatrick and Killileagh.

The Common Swallow (*Hirundo Rustica*) is a well-known and favourite bird.

The House Martin, Martlet, Martinel, or Window Swallow, (*Hirundo Urbica*), is later in its coming to us than the swallow, but the Sand Martin (*Hirundo Riparia*) is earlier, both in its arrival and departure, than the house martin.

The Common Swift, Black Martin, Deviling, or Screamer, (*Cypselus Apus*), usually appears here, about the 1st of May, and departs in the month of August.

The Night Jar, Goat Sucker, or Fern Owl, has been shot at Belvoir, Tollymore, and Hillsborough Parks.

In the Order Grallatores, or Waders, we have to enumerate in the family of the Charadriadæ or Plovers, the Golden or Yellow Plover, Dotterel, Ringed Plover, Kentish Plover, Lapwing or Green Plover, Turnstone or Sea Dotterel. Sanderling or Curwillett, and Oyster Catcher or Seapie; in the Ardeidæ or Herons, the Crane, Heron or Heronshaw, Bittern or Miredrum; in the Tantalidæ, the Glossy Ibis; in the Scolopacidæ, or Snipes and Curlews—the Redshank or Red-legged Horseman, Green Sandpiper, Sandpiper, Greenshank or Greenshanked Godwit, Avocet or Yelper, Black-tailed Godwit, Ruff, Woodcock, Curlew, Whimbrel or Stone Curlew, Spotted Redshank or Dusky Sandpiper, Common Snipe or Heather Bleater, Solitary Snipe, Jack Snipe, Broad-billed Sandpiper, Least Snipe or Little Sandpiper, Pigmy Curlew, Purple Sandpiper, and Ash-coloured Sandpiper or Knot; in the Rallidæ or Rails, the Landrail or Corncrake, Spotted Rail, Water Rail or Velvet Runner, Common Water Hen, Common Coot; and in the Phalaropidæ or Phalaropes, the Grey Phalarope.

The Golden or Yellow Plover, (*Charadrius Pluvialis*), may be recognized by its wild and mournful note.

The Dotterel, (*Charadrius Morinellus*), has occasionally been shot at Garnerville, Finnebrogue, Ballywalter, and some other places.

The Ringed Plover, Ringed Dotterel, Sea Lark or Knot, of the Belfast shores and waters, (*Charadrius Hiaticula*), breeds at the

Copland Isles, the islets of Strangford Lough, and the Kinnegar, but large numbers come from other countries.

The Kentish Plover (*Charadrius Cantianus*) is rare, but one specimen has been obtained in the County of Down, near Belfast.

The Grey Plover (*Squatarola Cinerea*) rarely appears until the end of September. Its note is louder, and more of a whistle, than that of a golden plover, whence it is sometimes called the whistling plover.

The Lapwing, Green Plover, Bastard Plover, or Peewit, (*Tringa Vanellus*), abounds in bogs and marshy grounds, and the number of indigenous birds is largely increased from Scotland. The Green Plover was formerly admitted amongst the meats of mortification, in the Roman Catholic Church.

The Turnstone or Sea Dotterel, the Hebridal Sandpiper of Bewick, (*Streptilas Interpres*), is rare, and usually seen on the sea coast. The bird is remarkable for the prehensile power of its foot, which enables it to turn over large pebbles, in search of its food.

The Sanderling, or Towillee (*Calidus Arenaria*) has been shot in Belfast Bay, and at Dundrum and Downpatrick. This bird breeds in more northern latitudes, and comes to us in the early autumn.

The Oyster Catcher, Oyster Plover, or Olive (*Haematopus Ostralegus*), frequently builds in the islands of Strangford Lough.

The Crane (*Ardea Grus*) is included in the classification of *Cambrensis*, but it is an extremely rare visitant, if it comes here at all.

The Heron, Heronseugh, (*Ardea Cinerea*), is abundant on the shores of Belfast and Strangford Loughs, but it may be seen all through the county, on the banks of the streams and land loughs. For an amusing description of some of its peculiarities the reader is referred to "The Recreations of Christopher North."

These birds usually breed on lofty trees, but at one period they settled on a low stony islet, in Lough Aghery, where they maintained their ground for a long time, until finally beaten away,

after severe conflicts, by the black-headed gulls, which kept possession of the island, as a breeding-ground, for many years. The patience of the heron, in watching for its prey, which it strikes with the rapidity of lightning, is well worthy of observation. Young herons are described by some writers as excellent eating, even equal to grouse, or resembling game, but they have usually a strong and fishy flavour, objectionable to the palates of most people. There are a number of heronries in the county.

The Bittern, Bog Bumper, Bitterburn, (*Botaurus Stellaris*, or *Ardea Stellaris*), is gradually becoming very scarce. It usually visits us in winter.

The Latin epithet *Ardea Stellaris* has reference to the peculiar spiral flight of the bird, by which it ascends far beyond the reach of mortal "ken," or, in the words of Virgil, "*Altam supra ardea nubem.*"

The Bittern, in the palmy days of falconry, afforded excellent sport. There is yet, says Turberville, "another kind of flight to the fiede, which is called the great flight, as to the cranes, wild geese, bustards, birds of paradise, bittors, shovelars, hearons, and many other such like."\* By statutes of Henry VIII., and Edward VI., one year's imprisonment, and a forfeiture of 8d. for each egg, were the punishments fixed for those who took away the eggs of the "bitton." The bird was formerly in high esteem for the table, and in the time of the first-named monarch, it was valued at 1d. The flesh somewhat resembles that of the hare, but Harris describes it as hard, fibrous, and of fishy flavour.

Localities, in which the Bittern has been more recently observed, are Holywood Moss, Conswater Point, Killileagh, Killinchy, Kirkistown flow, Downpatrick, Portaferry, and Strangford. This bird has attracted the notice both of the poet, and the prophet of old. "I will also make it a possession for the bittern, and pools of water."† The hollow booming of the bittern, alleged to

\* Flights of the Field.

† Isaiah xiv. 2, 3; and also xxxiv. 11; and Zephaniah ii. 14.

resemble the bellowing of a bull, as minutely described by Goldsmith, will recall the words of a brother poet—

“ Scarce the bittern knows his time,  
With bill ingulphed, to shake the sounding moss,  
Or from the shore, the plover, when to scatter o’er the land  
And sing their wild notes to the listening waste.”\*

The Bittern, the Miredrum of the North of England, frequent in the time of Harris, is now extremely rare.

Tantalidæ.—The Glossy Ibis (*Ibis Falcinellus*) is seen in autumn or early winter, when making its way southward.

Scolopacidæ.—The Snipes and Curlews.—The Curlew or Whaap, (*Numenius Arquata*). There is something wild and pleasing in the night whistle of the curlew, and its cry is so loud as to be sometimes heard at the distance of three miles.

At the “*Intronazation*” of the Archbishop of York, in the reign of Edward IV., one hundred of these birds were served at table. In the Northumberland Household Book, ‘*Kyrlewes*’ are charged at the same price as ‘*Fesauntes*’ and ‘*Bytters*,’ viz., 12d., whilst the price of a woodcock is set down at 1d., or 1½d., and “*Partredes*” at 2d. each. Among the expenses of Sir John Neville, of Chale, in the reign of Henry VIII., we find 20 curlews rated at 26s., and 32 “curlew knave,” at 32s.

The Whimbrel, May Curlew, May Bird, May Fowl, or Jack Curlew, the Titterel of Sussex (*Numenius Phæopus*), visits us in spring and autumn.

The Spotted Redshank, Red-legged Godwit, Spotted Snipe, the Barker of Bewick, (*Totanus Fuscus*), is extremely rare, but one specimen was shot, some years ago, in the rabbit warren, near Holywood.

The Woodcock (*Scolopax Rusticola*) is a winter visitant, but it has been observed to breed in Tollymore Park, and the plantations of Donard Lodge; and from a communication, obligingly forwarded to me, by the Hon. Albert Canning, now resident at the Lodge,

\* Thompson’s Seasons.



Rostrevor, it appears that these birds breed freely in the woods there, as he has found both the eggs and young, and observed the latter carried by the parent birds, either in their claws, or pressed between their breasts and feet.

The Common Snipe, Snite, or Heather-bleater, (*Scolopax Gallinago*), has diminished in numbers, with the increase of drainage. Wood says, the drumming of this bird is the result of the play of its wings, but I incline to the opinion, that it is produced by its vocal organs. Where abundant, they often spring in wisps.

The Jack Snipe, Gid, Judcock, or Jetcock (*Scolopax Gallinula*), is very common in winter.

The Solitary or Double Snipe (*Scolopax Major*) is occasionally, but very rarely, met with, and though various specimens of Sabine's Snipe (*Scolopax Sabini*) have been killed in Ireland, I cannot ascertain, that it has ever been observed in the County of Down.

In the Order of Natatores, or Swimmers, and the family of Anatidæ, or the Duck tribe, are included the great Wild or Whistling Swan, Bewick's Swan, Canada Goose, Grey Lag-goose, Barnacle or Tree-goose, Bean-goose, White-fronted Goose, Brent Goose, Egyptian Goose or Gambo, Sheldrake or Slygoose, Shoveller or Broad-bill, Wild Duck, Gadwall, Pintail or Sea Pheasant, Garganey, Teal, Widgeon, Surf Scoter, Eider Duck, King Eider, Velvet Scoter, Black Scoter, Pochard, Dunbird or Poker, Scaup, Tufted Duck, Long-tailed Duck, Smew or White Nun, Red-breasted Merganser, and Goosander.

The family of Colymbidæ, or the Grebes, comprises the great Crested Grebe, greater Dobchick or Ash-coloured Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Horned Grebe, Little Grebe or Dipper, Great Northern Diver or Loon, and the Black-throated, and Red-throated Divers.

In the family of Alcidæ, the Guillemots or Puffins, we meet with the Common or Foolish Guillemot, Bridled Guillemot, Black Guillemot, or Greenland Dove, Little Auk, Puffin or Coulterneb, Razorbill or Marrot, and Great Auk or Northern Penguin.



The Pelicanidæ, or Cormorants, include the Common, and Green Cormorant, or Skart, and the Gannet, or Solan Goose.

The Laridæ or Terns, and Gulls are a numerous family, and comprise the Sandwich, Roseate, Common Arctic, Little, White, and Black Terns ; and Sabine's, Little, Bonapartian, Black-headed, Kittiwake, Common, Herring, Lesser Black-backed, Great Black-backed, Glaucous and Iceland Gulls ; together with the Pomarine, Richardson's and Buffon's Skuas, the Manx, and Greater Shearwater, and the Fork-tailed, and Storm Petrel, or Mother Cary's Chicken.

The Great Wild Swan, or Hooper, (*Anas Cygnus*, or *Cygnus Ferus*), is an occasional visitant. Two were shot on Strangford Lough in 1829. A flock of fourteen were seen near Ballinahinch, and four or five at Connswater, in 1838, and they have frequently been observed on Lough Aghery, Lough Clay, and other lakes in the county. The Swan Islands, in Lough Strangford, probably received their name from the visits of these birds, which occasionally bred there in former times.

A specimen of Bewick's Swan (*Cygnus Bewickii*) was killed at Comber, in 1841, and four frequented one of the lakes in Hillsborough Park, in 1845.

The Canada Goose, or Cravat Goose, (*Anser Canadensis*), has been observed in very few instances, but a pair were shot at Dundrum in 1844.

The Domestic Swan (*Anas Olor*) is only kept for ornament, on ponds and lakes. In ancient times a royal licence was necessary for the possession of this bird, the privilege being limited to the king's sons, and freeholders, whose land was of the value of five marks, that is, £3 6s. 8d. Each owner had his own peculiar swan mark, and that of the vintners' company was a nick, on each side of the beak, from whence came the sign of the swan with two nicks, which was afterwards, absurdly corrupted into the swan with two necks. Swan-hopping, a custom instituted with the object of marking the cygnets, or young swans of the season, is still kept up annually, by the Lord Mayor and Corporation of London.

Taking swan's eggs from the nest, was an offence severely dealt with in olden times. We find in an Act of Henry VII., that "No manner of person of what condition or degree he bee. take or cause to be taken, be it upon his owne ground or any other man's, the eggges of any fawcon, goshawk, laners, or swans, out of the nest, upon paine of imprisonment of a yere and a day, and fine at the kings wil, the one halfe thereof to the king, and the other halfe unto the owner of the ground, where the eggs were so taken."

The swan is a quiet bird, but of great courage, and the stroke of its wing is sometimes powerful enough to break the limb of an assailant.

The cygnet, in its first year, is grey, but it subsequently assumes the snow-white plumage of the parent bird. The swan lives strictly in pairs, the technical terms, for the male and female, being "cob and pen."

The Grey Lag Goose (*Anser Ferus*) is rarely seen, but the Bean Goose (*Anser Segetum*) is the species commonly termed Wildgoose, and may be observed every winter, alighting in large flocks, on the Bays of Belfast and Strangford. The White-fronted or Laughing Goose (*Anser Albifrons*) has occasionally been killed, at both the bays mentioned. The Bass Goose, as described by Harris, is in reality the Gannet.

The Bernacle, white-faced bernacle (*Anser Bernicla*), is a common winter visitant. In Connaught wild geese bear this name, and the flesh, duly kept, is, according to the testimony of the author of the Wild Sports of the West, "delicious." The bernacle proper is usually termed land bernacle, as it spends much of its time on the land, whereas the other species, correctly called Brent Goose, lives wholly in the water. The production of the bernacle from a cirrihipede is gravely asserted by Harris, but his opinion, though still constituting a popular belief, is too absurd to require any refutation.

The favourite food of the brent, or clack goose, is the *zostera*

marina, or sleet grass. The call of a flock of these birds is said to resemble the music of a pack of hounds in full cry.

Specimens of the Egyptian Goose, or Ganser (*Anser Ægyptiacus*), have been occasionally shot, but they were probably domestic birds straying out of bounds.

The Red-breasted Goose (*Anser Ruficollis*) is of questionable occurrence here.

The Common Guillemot, Willock, Skout, Kiddaw, Seahen, or Lavy (*Uria Troile*), has been observed off the coast of Annalong, and in Strangford Lough. The Bishop of Norwich gives a pleasing account of this bird, and it is fully described by Selby, Edmonston, Waterton, and Audubon.\*

The Shelldrake, Skeelduck, Skeelin, Skeldrake, Burrowduck, or Ber-gander (*Anas Tadorna*), is bred on the largest of the Copeland isles, and also at the Kinnegar of Holywood.

The Shoveller, Kertlutock, or Blue-winged Shoveller (*Spathulea Clypeata*), has been killed near Mount Stewart, Beersbridge, and other places.

The Wildduck, or Mallard (*Anas Boschas*), usually brings forth its young in the vicinity of the various lakes, but curious instances are known of its building on lofty trees, in Hillsborough Park, and other localities. According to Selby, the wild duck always pairs, although the domestic species is polygamous.

The Mallard changes his feathers in May, when he resembles the female, but re-assumes his own beautiful plumage in October.

The Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) is very rare, but a specimen was shot in a bog near Kircubbin, in 1847.

The Gannet, Solan Goose, Bass Goose, Spectacled Goose, or Gan (*Pelecanus Bassanus*), is to be seen all round the coast. The evolutions of these birds, when engaged in fishing, alike rapid and graceful, constitute a most interesting spectacle, and fishermen are often guided to the proper depth for lowering their nets by the height to which they ascend to strike their prey, as the greater

\* Habits of Birds, in the Library of Entertaining Knowledge.

the elevation, the lower should their nets be let down, in which they have been caught in numbers, even at the depth of one hundred and eighty feet. The plumage of the young bird is blackish, with white spots, but that of the adult is white.

The Manx Shearwater (*Puffinus Anglorum*) is often seen off Annalong.

The Fork-tailed Petrel (*Procellaria Leachii*) is occasionally observed, specimens having been shot at Lisburn, Downpatrick, Tollymore, Conswater, and Waringstown.

The Storm Petrel, Stormfinch, Little Petrel, or Mother Cary's Chicken (*Procellaria Pelagica*), is met with all round the coast. Individual specimens have been procured near Lisburn, Saintfield, and Belfast. The Petrel is so called, in allusion to St. Peter's walking on the waters of the lake.\* This bird contains an extraordinary amount of oil, and the inhabitants of the Faroe islands make an ingenious kind of lamp, by drawing a wick through the body of a plump young bird, and lighting the end projecting from the beak.

The Great-crested Grebe, Crested Grebe, Tippet Grebe, Greater Loon, Greater-crested Ducker, or Cargoose (*Podiceps Cristatus*), is a rare visitant, but specimens have been procured at Comber, Banbridge, and Lough Aghery; and it is said to breed in Hillsborough Park.†

The reader may be referred to some ingenious observations of Dr. Gordon, of Belfast, on the curious phenomenon of feathers being found in the stomach of this bird.

The Great Northern Diver, Imber Diver, or Imbril, the Embergoose of Bewick (*Colymbus glacialis*), has been observed off Donaghadee, the Copeland Isles, Bangor, and Dundrum. The cry of this bird is melancholy, resembling the howl of a dog. Audubon gives a full description of it,‡ and an interesting account of the

\* Bewick.

† Thompson's Natural History, vol. iii.

‡ Ornithological Biography, vol. iv., p. 43.

mode, in which it is hunted, in North America, is contained in the *Penny Magazine*.\*

A specimen of the Black or Common Scoter, (*Oidemia Nigra*), has been shot at Dundrum. The Pochard, Gold Head, Fresh-water, or Great-headed widgeon, (*Fuligula Ferina*), comes to us in winter, but one pair built, for two seasons, on Clay Lake. A writer, in the Quarterly Review, describes the flesh of this bird as exquisitely delicate.†

The Tufted Duck, or Whitesided Diver, (*Anas Fuligula*), also visits us in winter, and the same statement applies to the Long-tailed duck, (*Harelda Glacialis*), specimens of which have been shot at Killyleagh, and Ballymacarret. A very interesting account of this bird is given by St. John.‡

The Puffin, Sea-parrot, Mullet or Pope, the Tammie Norie of Edie Ochiltree,§ (*Fratercula Arctica*), comes early in the summer, and breeds both in Strangford Lough and the Island of Rathlin.

The Razorbill, Murre, Falk, or Scout, (*Alta Pica*), arrives regularly, for nidification on the cliffs of the sea-shore.

The Great Auk, (*Alca Impennis*), the Gairfowl of Bewick, from whose delightful work many of the synonyms are taken, is not of certain occurrence, but it is believed to have been observed, in the Bay of Belfast.

The Garganey, Summer Teal, (*Anas Querquedula*) is very rare, but a specimen has been seen at Lough Strangford. It is often called "Lady-fowl" in Dublin, and the South of Ireland. The beautiful little Teal (*Anas Crecca*) breeds in all suitable localities, and some remain through the whole year. The price of "Teyles," in the Northumberland Household Book, is 1d., and that of a Mallard, 2d. Drayton, in the Polyolbion, refers to them "as the lesser dibbling teal, flying in bunches."

The Widgeon, Whewer, Panded Whew, (*Anas Penelope*), is

\* 2nd August, 1839—p. 319.

† Vol. lv. p. 464.

‡ Wild Sports of the Highlands.

§ Scott's Antiquary.

abundant, Strangford Lough which has an immense stock of its own breeding, as well as numerous visitors from the Bay of Belfast.\*

The Bonapartian Gull (*Larus Bonapartii*) has been once procured in the Lagan, near "Ormeau." The Black-headed, or Red-legged Gull, Black Cap, Pewit Gull (*Larus Ridibundus*), is a resident, Lough Clay and Lough Aghery having been noted as favourite haunts. The Black-headed Gull, breeding in the fens, was in former times, valuable property, and the young were highly esteemed as excellent food. With this object they were caught in great numbers, before they were able to fly, the gentry assembling from all directions, to see the sport. The usual price was five shillings per dozen. In 1686, twelve pounds worth were sometimes caught of a morning. These birds were the "Sea Gulls," so plentifully provided at the great feasts of the ancient nobility, but they are not now brought to table.† The Brown-headed or Masked Gull (*Larus Capistratus*), is probably the same as the *Larus Ridibundus*.

The Kittiwake or Anett, the Tarrock of Bewick, (*Larus Tridactylus*), is a summer visitant, but individual specimens have been observed in the Winter Season.

The Common Gull, or Common Seamall or Seamew, (*Larus Canus*) is met with on all parts of the coast, and sometimes in the interior, at every season of the year. The Herring Gull, or Silvery Gull, (*Larus Argentatus*) is also common throughout the year. The name of the Laughing Gull has been attributed variously to the *Larus Ridibundus*, *Larus Atricilla*, and *Larus Argentatus*. A "Play" of Seagulls, of any description, is a beautiful and stirring sight.

The tame birds kept for the table, or for ornament, are the Domestic Fowl, the Turkey, the Guinea Fowl, the Peacock, the Pigeon, the Duck, the Goose, and the Swan.

The Turkey (*Meleagris Gallopavo*), is a native of America,

\* St. John's British Birds and their haunts.

† Plot's History of Staffordshire.



and Barnaby Goodge, in his four books on husbandry, says they were not seen in England, before 1530. There are several varieties, as the Black, the White, the Norfolk, the Cambridge or Bustard, the White Tufted, and American. Dubourdieu refers to a wild species of a copper colour, to be seen in Antrim, in the beginning of the century. In its native state the Turkey is black. The Pintado or Guinea Fowl (*Numida Meleagris*) is a native of Africa, called by the Monks, in the 13th century, the African Bird (*Avis Africanus*). They are of various hues, as white, red, and "self-coloured," or leaden grey. The Guinea Fowl is in season in the Spring, and the flesh is said to be quite equal to that of the Pheasant.

The Peacock (*Pavo Cristatus*) is a native of India. Birds of this species, though in great request, amongst the ancient Romans, are now rarely brought to table. In old times they were served up as a last course, roasted and sewed in their skins, with the feathers arranged as in life, and having the comb gilded. Peacocks have always been highly valued, having even formed part of the treasure brought to King Solomon, by the ships from Tarshish.

Amongst the domestic poultry we may briefly refer to the Game Fowl, Dorking, Poland, Bantam, Chittagong or Malay, Hamburg, Frizzled, Silk, and Rumpless Fowl, and the very numerous class of Dunghill or Mongrel breeds.

The Hamburg Fowl, either black or grey, which appears to have been the prototype of Chaucer's very accurate description, is of Eastern origin. A beautiful variety of this species is the Bolton Grey. The Shanghai, or Cochin China Fowl is a very large and ungainly breed, the mania for which has almost entirely died away. The call of the cock resembles rather a howl, than a crow. The hens are good layers, sometimes dropping three eggs in a day, which are, however, smaller than those of the ordinary breeds. Opinions differ as to the qualities of this bird for the table, and they have the disadvantage of consuming very large quantities of food. They are of various colours, as buff, white, black, and brown.

Poultry is very extensively reared in Down, and now constitutes an article of much commercial value, from the great rise in the price both of eggs and fowl. Vast quantities are bought up in the markets of Newtonards, Lisburn, Ballinahinch, Donaghadee, Newry, and other towns, not only for home consumption, but for export to Glasgow and Liverpool.

The domestic goose probably deduces its origin from the wild species (*Anas Anser*). Varieties of this bird are the Common, the large White Embden, sometimes called the Irish goose, the Toulouse, the Egyptian or Barnacle, the Spanish, the Canadian, the Chinese, and the Red-legged goose, most of them of comparatively recent importation.

The Wild Duck or Mallard (*Anas Boschas*), is the original of the common domestic duck. Both ducks and drakes are mentioned in the Works of Chaucer. The most approved varieties are the Rouen, Aylesbury, Buenos Ayrean, Common, and the Musk or Brazilian Duck, so called from the belief, that it emits the odour of musk, and it is hence erroneously called Muscovy duck, although never seen in that part of the world. It differs from all other species, in roosting on trees, or stone walls.

The tame pigeon, is very common, in small numbers, but there are now few, if any, extensive dovecots. The varieties of the domestic pigeons include the Jacobin, Runt, Fantail, Turbit, Owl, Nun, Shaker, Tumbler, Dragoon, Horseman, Cropper, Powter, Carrier, and some others. They are of different colours, and many of them are very handsome. The peculiar use of the Carrier pigeon, immortalised in Anacreon's Ode "*εἰς περιστέραν*," was well known to the ancients, and, as early as the time of the Second, and Third Edwards.

Sir John Maundeville,\* who penetrated to the borders of China, says—"In that contree and other contrees bezonde, thei hai a custoum whan thei schulle usen werre, and whan men holden sege

\* Penny Cyclopædia, article, Pigeons.

abouten cytee or castelle, and thei withinnen dur not send out messagers with lettere fro lord to lord, for to aske sokour, thei maken here letters, and bynden them to the nekke of a Colver and letten the Colver flee, and the Colveren ben so taughte, that thei flee with the letters to the very place, that men wolde send them to."

A number of birds common in Great Britain, including, the Ruffed Bustard, Black Stork, Spoonbill, Nightingale, and many others have not been observed, in the County of Down, whilst several others, seen here, are unknown in England, comprising the Griffin Vulture, (*Vultur Fulvus*), Spotted Eagle, (*Aquila Naevia*), Gold-vented Thrush, (*Turdus Aurigaster*), Great-spotted Cuckoo, (*Cuculus Glandarius*), Belted Kingfisher, (*Alcedo Alcyon*), Ruppell's Tern, (*Sterna Velox*). Whitewinged Black Tern, (*Sterna Leucoptera*), Noddy Tern (*Sterna Stolidia*), and the Bonapartian Gull, (*Larus Bonapartii*). It is very probable, however, that more extended observation will shew, that many of the birds above adverted to, are common to both kingdoms.

The species met with in other parts of Ireland, and not known to have visited the County of Down, include the Ash-coloured Harrier, Crane, Spotted or Rough-footed Eagle, Collared Pratincole, Little Bustard, Hobby, Osprey, Red-footed Falcon, or Orange-legged Hobby, Alpine Swift, Griffin Vulture, Purple Martin, Crested Lark, Eagle Owl, Yellow Wagtail, Scopeared Owl, White Wagtail, Bearded Tit, Tawny Owl, Marsh Tit, Woodwren, Redstart, Gyr Falcon, Garden Warbler, Black Redstart, Greenland Falcon, White's Thrush, and Goshawk.

To prevent the destruction of the feathered tribes, certain Acts of Parliament, termed "The Sea Birds and Wild Birds Preservation Acts," were recently passed, which provided that, "any person who shall kill, wound, or take any wild fowl, or shall have in his possession any wild fowl recently killed, wounded, or taken, between the first day of April, and the first day of August, in any year, shall, on conviction, forfeit and pay for every such wild

fowl, a sum of money not exceeding £1, with costs, one moiety of the fine to go to the informer, and the other to some charitable institution. The birds protected by the Act amount to about eighty, but curiously enough, the song thrush, blackbird, linnet, and skylark are omitted.

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## CHAPTER XL.

### Ichthyology. Fishes.

FISH are the lowest class of the vertebrate division of the animal kingdom, fitted only to live in water, and consequently provided with gills, which enable them to respire in the medium to which their existence is confined. Their progression through the water is principally effected by the movement of their tails, and their course is directed by the action of their fins.

Fishes, from their anatomical formation would appear to be dumb, or at all events their power of hearing is very feeble, and their organs of taste and smell are also obtuse. Like other classes of animated nature, they have been grouped in different orders and families, chiefly with reference to their physical organization,\* by authorities eminent in this department of natural history, including, Linnæus, Cuvier, Latreille, Ray, Jenyns, Block, Turton, Yarrell, and Thompson, who, it is greatly lamented, did not live to complete this branch of the Natural History of Ireland.

The various orders and families of fishes are all, with the exception of the order Acanthorini, represented here, more or less numerous, but there is no species peculiar to this county, although numbers unknown in our waters are found on the Southern and Western coast, comprising, the Greenland Shark, the Black Goby, the Minnow, the Sunfish, so valuable for its oil, and many others. The occurrence of certain Southern and Western species is doubtful, including the Alice Shad, Greenland Shark, Shagreen Ray, Spanish Seabream, Sting Ray, Pilot

\* Rymer Jones, *Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology*, art. Pisces.

Fish, Deep-nosed Pipe Fish, Spanish Mackerel, Red band Fish, or Red Snake Fish, Long, rough Dab, or Sandnecker, and the File Fish.

The fishes, met with in the County of Down, are all known in the waters of Great Britain, but some species occurring there, have not as yet been observed on our coast, including, the river Bull-head, or Miller's Thumb, the Graining, Spined Loach, Smelt Spirling or Sparling, Grayling, Torsk or Tusk, Ray's Sea-bream, and the lesser Weever or Stingfish (*Trachinus Viperæ*). There is no satisfactory proof, that wounds caused by the Weever, are, as is generally believed, poisonous ; but the injuries inflicted by its sharp spines, cause much inflammation and pain.\* In the order *Acanthopterygii* or spiny-finned fishes are included, in the family of the *Percidæ* or Perches, the Perch, Basse, and the Lesser Weever ; and amongst the *Loricati*, the Red Sapphirine, Streaked, Gray, and Little Gurnards, Piper, Seascorpion, Father Lasher, Armed Bullhead, Three-spined Stickleback, Ten-spined Stickleback, and Fifteen-spined Stickleback. The family *Sparidæ* comprises the Common, and Black Seabream, and the *Scombridæ* include the Mackerel, Tunny, Horse Mackerel, Dory, and Opah or Kingfish ; and in the family of *Taenioidei*, we meet with the Red, or Red Band Snakefish. The Mullet family *Mugilidæ*, comprises the Grey Mullet, and Atherine or Sandsmelt ; and amongst the *Gobiadæ*, we have the Smooth Blenny, Butter Fish, Gattoruginous Blenny, Yarrell's Blenny, Wolf Fish, the Gemmeous, and Sordid Dragonet, with the Black, Freckled, Double-spotted, Slender, and One-spotted Gobies. The family *Lophidæ* is represented by the Fishing Frog or Seadevil ; and the *Labridæ* include the Ballen Wrasse, Cook Wrasse, three-spotted Wrasse, Gilt-head or Gibbon's Wrasse, the Small-mouthed Wrasse, and Jago's Goldsinny.

The Order *Malacopterygii* includes, in the family *Cyprinidæ*, the Common Carp, Golden Carp, Gudgeon, Tench, Bream, Large-scaled Bream, and Rudd.

The family *Esocidæ* comprises the Pike, Garfish or Mackerel,

\* Yarrell's British Fishes, vol. i.



Guide, and Saury Pike; and the Salmonidæ include the Salmon, the Grey, Salmon, Common, and Gillaroo Trouts, and the Char, Pollan, Sprat, Herring, Twaite Shad, and Pilchard.

The members of the family Gadidæ are the Common Cod, Dorse or variable Cod, Haddock, Bib Pout, Power Cod, Coal Fish, Whiting, Pollack or Lythe, Ling, Three-bearded Rockling, Great Forked Beard, Lesser Forked Beard; and of the Platessæ, or Flat Fish, the Plaice, Flounder or Fluke, Dab, Smooth Dab, White Sole, Pole or Craig Sole, Holibut, Turbot, Brill, Muller's Topknot, Whiff, Solenette, Variegated Sole, and the Lump, Cornish, and Montague's Suckers.

The Aphodes or Eels comprise the Sharp-nosed, Broad-nosed, Snig, and Strangford Eels, and the Anglesea Morris, Conger Eel, Echiodon Drummondi, and Wide-mouthed Sand Eel.

In the Order Lophobranchii, *i. e.*, Fishes with tufted gills, in the family Osteodermi, the Great Pipe Fish, and the Oequoreal, Snake, Straight-nosed, and Worm Pipe Fishes have all been observed, and a specimen of the Short-nosed Hippocampus or Sea-horse has been taken in the Bay of Belfast; but the Orders Gymnodontes or Plectognathi, naked tooth fishes, and Sclerodermi, hard-skinned fishes, are not certainly known on the coast of Down.

The great Pipe Fish is remarkable for its attachment to its young.

In the Order Plagiostomi, or fishes having the mouth at one side, are comprised the small Spotted Dog Fish, Black-mouthed Dog Fish, Basking Shark or Sun Fish, Fox Shark, the Blue Shark or Porbeagle, Common Tope, Smooth Hound, Picked Dog Fish, Torpedo, Angel Fish, Grey Skate, Sharp-nosed Ray, Sandy Ray, Homelyn Ray, and Thornback, and Sting Ray.

The names of Beagle, Hound, and Dog Fish, given to some of the species in this order, have reference to their habit of hunting their prey in packs.

The occurrence of the Fox Shark or Thresher (*Carcharias Vulpes*), the Sting Ray or Fire Flare, (*Trygon Pastinaca*), and

the Basking Shark or Sun Fish, (*Selachus maximus*), is questionable.

The Skate is in season, in autumn and winter, and on one occasion a fine specimen, weighing 2 cwt., and another something less, were taken in the River Quoile. This fish is called True Skate, to distinguish it from the Thornback and Homelyn Ray, which are also called Skate in some localities. Some of the ova are of the immense weight of eight or nine ounces.

The true Skate, the long-nosed Skate, and sharp-nosed Skate, are all included under the general term Skate, from their being of the same category.

The various species of Stickleback (*Gasterosteus Aculeati*), whether three, four, ten, or fifteen-spined, occur with more or less frequency in the localities of Belfast, Newcastle, and Portaferry. Some have been taken in fresh, and some in salt, water, in pools along the margin of Lough Neagh, and in drains replenished by the tide. The Stickleback is very bold and voracious, attacking any living object, which it has the power to master.

The Red Gurnard (*Trigla Pini*).—This beautiful fish is bright red, and the flesh excellent.

The Mackerel, (*Scomber Scomber*), is also called *Macularius* from its spotted appearance. The usual mode of catching mackerel is with the drift net, but they are also taken by the line, which is called railing, or trailing. The baits are a piece of mackerel, or of ribbon, leather, or cloth, of a red colour.

The Tunny (*Thynnus Vulgaris*).—A large specimen of this fish, eight feet in length, was obtained, many years ago, in Ballyholme Bay, weighing about 300 pounds.

The Dory (*Zeus Faber*) contends with the mackerel, for the tradition of bearing the marks of the fingers of St. Peter, when procuring the tribute money. The Dory is probably so called, from the French *dorce*, or *jeune dorée*, in reference to its peculiar golden yellow colour.

The Atherine or Sandsmelt (*Atherina Presbyter*), is a well-flavoured fish. Daniel, in his "Rural Sports," alleges, that Strangford

Lough abounds with Smelts, and that it is almost the only place in which they are extensively taken, but the atherine is probably the species referred to.

The Butter Fish (*Blennius Gunnellus*), so called from the abundance of its mucous secretion, is not used here, as an article of food.

The Common Carp (*Cyprinus Carpio*) is described, in the 15th century, in the "Boke of St. Albans," by Dame Juliana Berners, the Prioress of Sopewell Nunnery, as a "deyntous fissan." It is very prolific, Block having found 600,000 ova, in the roe of a female, of 9 lbs. weight. This fish is said to have been introduced into Ireland, in the reign of James I., and Montalto, Castleward, and Killileagh are some of the localities, where it has been observed.

The Golden Carp, or Gold and Silver Fish, (*Cyprinus Auratus*), was probably brought into Europe in the 17th century, but it breeds in this country.

The Gudgeon (*Gobio Fluviatilis*) is common.

The Tench (*Tenca Vulgaris*) was probably introduced into the country, but it is now common, as at Purdysburn, and Montalto.

The Bream (*Abramis Brama*) abounds in the Lagan, and some of the Irish lakes.

The Rudd, or Red-eye, (*Leuciscus Erythrophthalmus*), is found in Lough Neagh, where it is called Roach.

The Minnow (*Leuciscus Phoxinus*) is of questionable occurrence.

The Pike (*Esox Lucius*) attains to great longevity, and size. One specimen, of the wonderful age of 267 years, and the enormous weight of 350 lbs., is on record. Pikes, of more than 50 lbs. weight, have been taken in Lough Neagh, and large numbers have also been caught in the smaller lakes, near Ballinahinch and Downpatrick. The pike is usually taken by night lines, baited with fish, or frogs.

The occurrence of the Loach or Bearded Loach (*Cobitis Barbatula*) has not been noticed here. Ruttly says it is good food, and

customarily taken by many, in its living state, in a glass of generous wine!!

The Gar Fish is called Horn Eel in Belfast Bay, and Mackerel-scout, in the Lough of Strangford.

The Saury Pike, Saury or Skipper, is very rare.

The Salmon (*Salmo Salar*) is called Par, or Graveling, when young. The late Mr. Sinclair, of Belfast, says salmon are in season all the year, and that they spawn every month. They are taken with nets, and occasionally with hooks baited with sand-eels. Their usual food is the pea or ova of other fishes. Salmon of sixty pounds weight have been occasionally caught, the largest specimen on record being eighty-three pounds.

The Lagan, once afforded an abundant supply both for home consumption and exportation, but the fishing stations were destroyed by the construction of the canal. The various modes of taking this delicious fish, is described at length in the treatise of Yarrell.\*

The Grey Trout, Bulltrout, Round Tail, or Whitling (*Salmo Eriox*), is not so much esteemed for the table as the salmon. The flesh is of a pale orange colour. It is caught at Newcastle, where it has the local name of Dolochan, and at some other places.

The Salmon Trout, (*Salmo Trutta*) commonly called White Trout or Sea Trout, is got in the Lagan, and Lough Neagh, but the fresh water species, are inferior to those caught at Donaghadee, Ballywalter, and other places on the coast. This fish is the Fordwich Trout "the rare good meat of Izaak Walton," and probably the "herling" of Scotland.

The Common Trout (*Salmo Faro*) is abundant in all streams. This fish affords excellent sport to the angler, as it is vigilant, cautious, bold, and active.

The Gillaroo, a variety of the common Trout, is got in Lough Neagh, being distinguished from the ordinary trout, by spots resembling dirty finger marks, above the ventral profile, and by the hardness and muscularity of its stomach.

\* Vol. ii., p. 21, *et seq.*

The great lake Trout (*Salmo Ferox*), is the common Trout of Lough Neagh. It sometimes attains a weight of more than 32 lbs. The largest one recorded, is that described by Lady Howth, in a letter to Dr. Swift, which weighed more than 35 lbs.

The Char (*Salmo Umbla*) is got in Lough Neagh, and Windermere, and in Lough Owel, near Slieve Donard, in abundance.\*

The Pollan, (*Coregonus Pollan*), is the only species of *Coregonus* yet observed in Ireland. It occurs in Lough Neagh, and perhaps in Lough Erne. They are sometimes taken in enormous quantities. Mr. Thompson says it is not in general estimation, but he considers it a very good, and well-flavoured fish, a commendation in which the writer cannot concur.†

The Herring (*Clupea Harengus*) derives its name from a German term expressive of great numbers. The herring is of migratory habits. The usual time of taking this fish is by night, as they then strike the drift nets, in much greater numbers, than in the day. Occasionally they have been caught in the evening in large numbers, with hand-lines, the hooks being baited with feathers.‡

The Sprat, the Garvie of Scotland, (*Clupea Sprattus*) has been taken at Newcastle, and in the Lough of Belfast. The fishing season, succeeds that of the herring, and continues through the winter. Amazing numbers are caught on the coast of Donegal, but there is no sprat fishery on the coast of Down. The flesh is rich and good.

The Twaite Shad, (*Alosa Finta*) is of doubtful occurrence.

The Pilchard (*Clupea Pilchardus*) is rare, on the coast of Down, whereas on the Cornwall coast, the fish assemble in "schulls," so large, that on some occasions 20,000 have been taken in one boat, in a single night. A very interesting account of pilchard fishing may be found in Yarrell. The common Cod Fish, or Keeling, (*Gadus Morrhua*), is prized either fresh or salted.

The Rock Cod is a mere variety, of a reddish brown colour,

\* Stephen Oliver's Agreeable Scenes and Recollections of Fly-Fishing.

† Thompson, vol. iv. p. 168.

‡ Yarrell, Supplement, p. 26.



inhabiting rocky localities. At Portaferry the Cod is termed Codling, when young, Buddagh, when middle-sized, and Cod Fish, when arrived at maturity. Nine millions of ova have been found in the roe of a single female. It is entirely taken by line and hook.

The Haddock, (*Gadus Aeglefinus*). The name is derived from the French Hadot. It is an excellent fish, but of late years very much scarcer than formerly. A specimen, caught at Groomsport, weighed 25 lbs, but about Killough, where great numbers are taken, the average weight is 4 lbs.

The Cod Fish or Black Pollack, (*Merlangus Carbonarius*). At Portaferry the fry of this Fish are called Gilpins, the next in weight, Blockans, a third size, Greylords, and very large fish, Glashans. In Scotland the Coal Fish is called Sillock, and sometimes Cudden.

The Whiting, (*Merlangus Vulgaris*), is a plentiful and delicate fish, those of a medium bulk, being the most suitable for cooking.

The Pollack Whiting, or Pollack, (*Merlangus Pollachus*) is very common. It is considered better than the Coal Fish. It is called Lythe in Scotland, and the North of Ireland, and when of sufficient size, it is a passably good fish.

The Hake, (*Merlucius Vulgaris*), is prevalent, though not much prized.

The Ling, (*Lota Molva*), has been found of so great a size, as 5 feet in length, and in a few instances, reaching 70 lbs. weight. It is very valuable for salting, and is usually taken by line-fishing. The air bladders, called sounds, by some considered a delicacy, are prepared separately.

The Plaice, (*Platessa Vulgaris*), is the most common flat fish in the North.

The Flounder or Fluke, (*Platessa Flesus*), is sometimes obtained in fresh water. A specimen of 4 lbs. weight has been observed, but in general, they are not nearly so large.

The Dab Saltie, or Saltwater Fluke, (*Platessa Limanda*), is superior to Plaice or Flounder.



The White Sole, Pole, or Craig Fluke, *Platessa Pola*, is only a tolerably good fish, although in Paris, it is as much prized as the Black Sole.

The Holibut (*Hippoglossus Vulgaris*), is occasionally taken, and of all weights, up to 300 lbs. One specimen of the largest size was caught at Ballyhalbert. It is a somewhat coarse, but good fish.

The Turbot, the Rawn Fluke, or Bannock Fluke, of Scotland, (*Pleuronectes Maximus*), usually weighs from 3 to 30 lbs. It is speared at Newcastle, and also caught by trawling, and long line. It is a delicious fish, termed by Ruttie, "the pheasant of the water." Quin, the celebrated actor, a great authority in such matters, says, the flesh on the dark-coloured side is the best.

The Brill or Britt (*Pleuronectes Rhombus*) is a good fish.

The Whiff (*Pleuronectes Megastoma*), the Carter of the Cornish fishermen, the She Sole of Belfast, and Ox Sole of Dublin, is occasionally met with.

The Sole (*Solea Vulgaris*) seldom takes bait, and is caught almost entirely by trawling. It is an excellent fish, and it will thrive in fresh water.

The Sharp-nosed Eel (*Anguilla Acutirostris*) is taken in amazing quantities, as many as 70,000 having been caught, in one night, in the weir, at Toome, on the River Bann. Mr. Thompson believes the Strangford eel to be distinct from the three British species, usually described.

The Broad-nosed Eel (*Anguilla Latirostris*), is found in Lough Neagh, and the Snig Eel (*Anguilla Medirostris*), along the coast, and in the inland lakes.

The Anglesea Morris (*Leptocephalus Morrissii*) was first made known as a distinct species, by Thompson. This eel is very large, sometimes weighing 130 lbs.

The Conger Eel, (*Conger Vulgaris*), is chiefly caught in May and June, and generally on long lines. This fish bites desperately, and it has been known to do so, even after the head was cut off.

The Eel tribe are extremely tenacious of life, but they perish in great numbers on exposure to intense frost. The flesh of the eel is excellent. The term Grig is applied, in and about London, to small eels, on account of the vivacity of their movements, and hence the phrase "Merry as a Grig." Eels are oviparous.

*Echiodon Drummondii* is a species of Eel, minutely described by Thompson.

The Wide-mouthed Sand Eel, or Wide-mouthed Launce (*Ammodytes Tobianus*), is taken occasionally.

The Common Sand Eel, or Sand Launce (*Ammodytes Lancea*), occurs at Newcastle, and the shores of Strangford Lough, and it is taken at Dundrum, in large quantities. They are pulled up with old reaping-hooks from the sand, or dug out with shovels. Pigs forage for, and feed on them. The greatest number taken, during one ebb, by a single person, is about 50 quarts.

Thompson says there are two varieties of this excellent fish, the larger termed Spedden, and the smaller, Sand Eels.

The only individual in the Order Eleutheropomi or Sturgeon, is the Common Sturgeon, (*Acipenser Sturio*), specimens of which have been taken at Donaghadee, and the Bay of Dundrum. A curious enactment of Edward II., regarding this fish, is still on the statute book:—

*"Item habet wrecktum maris per totum regnu, wallenas et stur-giones captos in mari vel alibi infra regnu exceptis quibusdam locis privilegiatis p Reges," i. e.*, the king shall have wreck of the sea throughout the realm, and whales and great sturgeons, taken in the sea, or elsewhere, within the realm, except in places privileged by the king."

None of the Order Acanthorini have been recorded, as occurring in Ireland.

In the Order Cyclostomi, or fishes having a central mouth, we meet with the Lamprey, Lampern or River Lamprey, Myxine or Glutinous Hag, Mud Lamprey, and Fringed-lipped Lampern or Planers. The Lamprey, (*Petromyzon Marinus*), has been taken in the larger rivers connected with Lough Neagh, and at New-

castle, and Conswater. Pennant tells us, that it was an old custom, in the city of Gloucester, to present the king with a lamprey. This fish, like the hake and ray, has no swimming bladder, and in spawning, it attaches itself by the mouth to a large stone.

The Order Crustacea, or Crustaceans, includes the division of Decapoda, Stomapoda, Amphipoda, Isopoda, Phillopoda, Ostrapoda, Copepoda, Siphonostomata, Lerneada, and Pychnogonida. Various Crustaceans were formerly associated with Insects and Spiders, but subsequently separated, in consequence of the anatomical researches of Cuvier.

The Crustaceans of Down comprise about one half of the known British species, but we have only space to refer to a few, including *Stenorynchus Phalangium*, *Inachus Leptacherus*, *Hyas Araneus*, *Eurynome Aspera*, *Pilumnus Hirtellus*, and *Carcinus Moenas*, a creature of the most pugnacious propensities.

We have also the Pea Crab, (*Pinotheres pisum*), the Angular Crab, (*Gonoplax Angulatus*), the Edible Crab, (*Cancer Pagurus*), and some others, presently to be mentioned.

*Carcinus Maenas* is the Parten of Scotland. Mr. William Thompson describes the carapace of his largest specimen, as measuring  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in breadth, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in length.\* Of the genus *Cancer*, or Crab species, the Edible Crab (*Cancer Pagurus*) occurs all round the coast. One,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. weight, was taken in Strangford Lough, and another, nearly of the same weight, in Belfast Bay. The usual mode of capture is with baited wicker baskets. At Donaghadee, the crab is sometimes taken, by thrusting a piece of hooked iron, into the crevices of the rocks, at low water. In spring and summer, it is held to be in season. The best test of a good crab is its weight, and on shaking it close to the ear, if it contain water, the splashing will be heard, and its inferiority thus ascertained.

The Cray Fish (*Astacus Fluviatilis*) is found in the rivers, in

\* Natural History of Ireland, vol. iv. p. 374.

various parts of the kingdom, but I have not seen any account of its occurrence in this county. By some it is preferred to the common crab.

Of the Hermit Crabs, the majority of British species are known here, including *Pagurus Bernhardus*, *P. Prideauxii*, *P. Cuanensis*, *P. Ulidianus*, *P. Laevis*, *P. Thompsoni*, *P. Hyndmani*, and *Porcellana Platycheles*, *Porcellana Longicornis*, *Galathea squamifera*, and *Galathea Strigosa*, are not uncommon.

The Spring Lobster (*Palinurus Vulgaris*) is edible, but accounts differ as to its quality.

The Lobster (*Homarus Vulgaris*) is taken in large quantities, all round the coast, from October to May, in wicker traps, or lobster pots, baited with plaice, flounders, and other fish. On the east coast of England, nets are used, in capturing the lobster, and sometimes very large, and strong wooden pincers. This creature is very combative, whence it often loses a claw or leg, which, however, it has, like the spider, the curious power of reproducing, and this accounts for the difference in length so frequently observable in the limbs. It has also the curious faculty of casting its shell. An excellent test of the goodness of the fish, is its heaviness, in proportion to its size. What is termed a sizeable lobster, is from one to two pounds in weight, but it sometimes reaches the weight of five or six pounds. In the summer months, the smaller are superior to larger ones, and when under four inches in length, they are much prized at Scarborough, under the name of "Pawks." More than 12,000 ova have been counted in a single female. The "cock" lobsters are distinguished by the narrowness of their tails, and by the strong spines underneath them. The lobster, contrary to general belief, is said by some writers, to be possessed of keen powers of smell, sight, hearing, touch, and taste. Its muscular power is very great, enabling it to run with rapidity, and to spring off its tail, to the distance of fifteen or twenty feet.

The Norwegian Crab (*Nephrops Norwegicus*) is caught in large quantities, off the east coast of Down, by trawling, and taken to

Dublin for sale. So much as a ton weight has sometimes been captured in one day.

The Shrimp (*Crangon Vulgaris*) is commonly got on sandy shores, but sometimes dredged from a considerable depth, in the Loughs of Strangford and Belfast.

The Prawn (*Palaemon Serratus*) is scarcer, here, than formerly.

The Crangons occurring in Down comprise *Crangon Vulgaris*, *Fasciatus*, *Spinus*, *Sculptus*, *Almanni*, *Pattersoni*, and some others.

The Prawns observed are, *Palaemon Squilla*, *Serratus*, and *Varians*, and *Cuma Trispinosa* has been found in the Lough of Strangford.

Amongst the Amphipodous Crustacea, the *Chelura* and *Limnoria Terebrans*, or Gribble, both occur in amazing numbers, and many genera, as *Talitrus*, *Gammaras*, *Amphithoe*, *Corophium*, and several others, are common.

Of the Stomopoda, the only observed species are the *Mysis Vulgaris*, *Mysis Chameleon*, and *Themistos Brevi spinosa*.

The order of *Laemodipoda* is represented by several genera of the *Caprellæ*.

The other classes of the Crustaceans are also fully represented here, viz., the *Isopoda*, by various species of the genera *Arcturus*, *Ascellus*, *Sphoeroma*, *Cymodocea*, and others; the *Phyllopoda* by the *Apus* and *Polyphemus*; the *Ostropoda* by the *Cytherea* and *Cypris*; the *Copepoda* by the *Cetochilus* and *Canthocarpus*; the *Siphonostomata* by the *Caligus* and *Trebis*; the *Lerneada* by the *Lerneopoda* and *Lerneæ*; and the *Pychnogonida* by the genera *Nymphon*, *Munna*, and *Orythia*.

Amongst Crustaceans not noticed in Down, but occurring towards the southwards of the kingdom, we find *Pisa Tetradon*, *Polybius Henslowii*, *Maia Squinado*, called at Youghal horrid crab, and sometimes eaten by the fishermen, *Xantho Rivulosa*, and a few others.

The Order *Cirrhopoda* includes a class of invertebrate animals, composed chiefly of the Barnacles, and Acorn Shells, the former



being of the division of the Pedunculata, and the latter of the division of Sessilia. The peculiar conformation of this order of beings is minutely described by Dr. Coldstream, in the *Cyclopædia of Anatomy*.

Cirripeda are so called from the curl-like form presented by their coiled arms or feet. This class is extensively represented here by various genera, and the following are a few of the species, viz., *Scalpellum Vulgare*, *Balanus Communis*, *Balanus Rugosus*, *Balanus Punctatus*, and *Creusia Verruca*.

Among the Cirripeda not occurring in Down, but found elsewhere in the kingdom, we may notice *Anatifa*, *Striata*, *Pollicipes*, *Cornucopia*, and *Coronula diadema*, and the list might be considerably extended.

The Order Annelida, or Worms, contains the families of Apoda, and Polypoda, which comprise various genera, including the earthworm, and medicinal leech. The anatomy of this class of animated beings is fully described by Dr. Milne Edwards,\* but we shall only advert here, to the curious fact, that if a nais or earthworm, be cut in two, it will continue to live, and each moiety will become a perfect worm, a result explainable by the fact that every ring of the creature possesses similar organs, each one being the analogue of all the rest. Many of the genera in this order are represented by a variety of species.

The Medicinal Leech (*Hirudo Medicalis*) is not known, in this county, although it occurs in Galway, but the Horse Leech is common enough.

The genera of *Serpulæ*, *Terebellæ*, and *Nereidæ*, are all numerous.

The *Sipunculoidæ*, formerly included in the Order Echinodermata, comprise amongst others, the *Syrinx Harveii*, and *Sipunculus Bernhardus*.

The Order *Acalepha*, or Sea Nettles, contains the families *Siphonophora*, *Ciliograda*, and *Pulmograda*. The individuals of

\* *Cyclopædia of Anatomy*.



this class are all inhabitants of the sea, and are commonly called by the names of Sea Jelly, Portuguese Men-of-war, and other local appellations. They are very numerous, but only a few have been described in detail, although Eschscholtz has enumerated about two hundred species. A description of this order, by Dr. Coldstream, is also contained in the Cyclopædia of Anatomy. Among the species indigenous in Down are *Agalma Gettiana*, *Beroë Cucumis*, *Alcinoe Hibernica*, *Hippocrene Britannica*, *Obelia Vitrea*, *Aurelia Aurita*, *Cyanæa Capillata*, and some others, but many occurring elsewhere, are not yet known to us.

The Order Zoophyta, or Zoophytes, an extremely numerous class of beings, now arranged in various orders, and genera, were long believed to be of a vegetable nature, and they were only added to the animal kingdom, by Reaumur, after Peyssonnel, in 1727, had proved that this was their proper distribution. Calcareous matter enters largely into their composition, especially that of the Madre-pores, by the labours of which coral reefs and islands, composing great territories of newly-formed land, are brought into existence, and ultimately rendered fitting for the habitation of man.

The Order Zoophyta, includes the families of Hydroida, Asteroidea, Helianthoida, and Ascidioida, each represented by several genera, comprising numerous species, amongst which may be enumerated *Tubularia Larynx*, *Thoa Halecina*, *Plumularia Pulcata*, various *Sertulariæ*, and many others.

The Order Echinodermata. Star Fishes, Sea Eggs, or Sea Urchins, contains the families Pinnigrada, Spinigrada, Cirrigrada, Cirrhispinigrada, Cirrhivermigrada and Vermigrada, which comprise many species both in the living and fossil state. It includes the elongated *Holothuriadæ*, the Star-shaped *Ophiuridæ*, and *Asteriadæ*, and the Globular *Echinidæ*, together with the *Crinoideæ*, which are fixed to stones, without the power of locomotion. They are all inhabitants of the sea, and most of the species are covered with prickles, a circumstance from which they derive their name. For the detailed anatomy of this species, the reader may consult, the article on the subject, contributed by Dr. Sharpey

to the Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology, but their internal structure is not yet well known. This class is extensively represented in Down, and in it we find *Synapta Inhærens*, *Holothuria Hyndmanni*, *Comatula Rosacea*, *Ophiura Texturata*, *Ophiocoma Neglecta*, *Uraster Hispida*, *Palmipes Membranaceus*, *Asterias Aurantiaca*, *Ophiura Rosula*, *Spatangus Purpureus*, *Amphidotus Cordatus*, *Ocnus Lacteus*, *Thyone Papillosa*, *Uraster Rubens*, *Solaster Endeca*, *Echinus*, *Sphæræ*, *Amphidotus Cordatus*, and various others, whilst many, unknown to us, occur elsewhere.

In the numerous Order Mollusca, are included the classes of Cephalopoda, Pteropoda, Gasteropoda, Lamellibranchiata, and Tunicata, subdivided into various families.

In referring to the orders of Mollusca, we shall generally employ the nomenclature adopted by Thompson, although aware, that great changes have taken place in this respect, new names having been applied in many instances, by Forbes, Hanley, and other authorities.

The Mollusks are numerous in this county. Amongst them a specimen of the *Auricula Denticulata* has been observed at Bangor, and the *Limneus Stagnalis*, the largest European species of the *Limneadæ*, is common enough. The *Ancylus Lacustris* may be found in the Lagan, adhering to the under surface of the leaves of the water lily. The recent shell of the *Scalaria Turtoni* has been procured at Newcastle, and in Belfast Bay. A few species, observed in Down, are unknown in other parts of Ireland, of which the *Lima Subauriculata* is an example, and on the contrary many common enough in the South, have not been noticed here, including *Sagitta Britannica*, *Melibœa Fragilis*, *Stylifer Turtoni*, *Neæra Cuspidata*, and some others.

Amongst the Tunicata, a very beautiful class, we meet with *Ascidia Mentula*, *A. Conchilega*, *A. Aspersa*, *A. Orbicularis*, *A. Virginea*, *Phallusia Intestinalis*, *Cynthia Claudicans*, *Clavellina Lepadiformis*, *Aplidium Fallax*, *Sidnyum Turbinatum*, *Leptoclinum Aureum*, *Botrylloides Albicans*, *Didemnum Gelatinosum*, which, with many others, in the various orders referred to, are

quite too numerous for insertion, here, and at any rate, better adapted for the pages of a work, expressly dedicated to natural History.

Amongst the Nudibranchs or Sea Slugs, the *Doris Muricata*, and *Doris Ulidiana*, not found elsewhere in Britain, occur on the Northern coast.

The Mollusks, have neither articulate skeleton, nor vertebral column, but their anatomy will be found minutely described, by Mr. Richard Owen, in the Article Mollusca in the Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology.

Amongst the Cephalopods, the genus *Octopus* has recently attracted much attention, from some remarkably large specimens having been found, as the following newspaper extract will shew—

“OCTOPODS—There are in the Aquarium of Naples, eight large octopods, one of which cut in two, a large lobster, with which he was fighting, and another ate up, to the last atom, a live rat.”

The most numerous species of Mollusks, are found in the Bays of Carlingford, Dundrum, Strangford, and on the Turbot Bank, which stretches across the entrance of the Bay of Belfast. Many of them are only to be procured by dredging.

The class (Pulmonifera Inoperculata) includes the land and fresh-water shells, which are variously distributed over the county.

The Genus *Galathea* comprises several species of the luminous crustacea, and the Genus *Palinurus*, the Spring lobster, which is an edible species.

The *Cyanea Lamarchii* and *Cyanea Capillata* are the only native stinging species of Mollusks.

Individuals of the Genus *Actinia*, when divided, have the curious property of rapidly reproducing the separated part.

The Velvet Crab, *Portumnus Variegatus*, has been found at Newcastle, but it is rare.

In the class Cephalopoda, of which six species are found in Down, we have the Genus *Sepia*, to which belongs the *Sepia Officinalis*, which, at Dundrum, has received the local appellation

of Cat Fish. The bone is called Mayshell, and valued by the country people for its alleged medicinal virtues.

The Genus *Loligo* or Cuttle Fish, found on various parts of the coast, includes *Loligo Vulgaris*, *L. Media*, *Subulata*, and *Eblanæ*, together with *Eledone*, *Cirrhusa*, *Octopus*, and *Sepiola Rondoleti*. The *Sepiæ* exhibit the most beautiful changes of colour, and possess the curious self-protecting property, of emitting a kind of ink, which tinges the surrounding water so darkly, that the creatures become invisible, and thus effect their escape.

Of the class *Pteropoda*, no specimens have been obtained on the coast of Down, whilst the individuals of the class *Gasteropoda*, including the various kinds of slugs, and the land and fresh water shells, are very numerous.

Probably about one hundred species of shells are known in Ireland, and many of them in the County of Down, amongst which we may particularise the following *Brachiopods*, viz:—*Terebratula Caput serpentis*, and *Crania Anomala*: and amongst *Bivalve* shells, *Pecten Pusio*, *Pecten Striatus*, *Pinna Rudis*, *Crenella Decussata*, *Kellia Cuborbicularis*, *Cardium Nodosum*, *Circe Minima*, *Venus Casina*, *Tellina Crassa*, *Tellina Donacina*, *Psammobia Ferroensis*, *Solen Vagina*, *Pandora Obtusa*, *Thrasia Papyracea*, and *Pholis Crispata*.

*Gastropod* shells are very numerous, comprising amongst many other species, *Actæon Tornatilis*, *Cylichna Cylindracea*, *Pleurotoma Costata*, *Trophon Muricatus*, *Natica Sordida*, *Eulima Distorta*, *Odostomia Plicata*, *Odostomia Spiralis*, *Scalaria communis*, *Rissoa Cancellatus*, *Lacuna Crassior*, *Tectura Virginea*, *Trochus Tumidus*, *Chiton Albus*, *Tectura Testidudinalis*, *Tinctura Tumidus*, *Lacuna Crassior*, *Scalana Turtonæ*, *Aclis Gulsonæ*, *Odostomia Lactea*, *Eulima Distorta*, *Natica Sordida*, *Trophon Muricatus*, *Defrancia Reticulata*, *Pleurotoma Costata*, *Cylichna Cylindracea*, and others recorded in the Belfast Guide.

About one half of the British and fresh water shells occur here, including *Ancylus Lacustris*, *Valvata Cristata*, *Helix Lamellata*, *Vertigo Substriata*, *Bulimus Acutus*, *Pupa Umbilicata*, and *Pupa*

Marginata, with several more. The following Helices are common enough, viz. : *Helix Aspersa*, *Hortensis*, *Nemoralis*, *Hortensis Lamellata*, *Pulchella*, *Fusca*, *Hispida*, *Pygmaea*, *Rufescens*, *Virgata*, *Ericetorum*, *Rotundata*, *Alliaria*, *Cellaria*, *Radiatula*, *Lucida*, *Crystallina*, as well as various *Succineas*. Of the Genus *Cardium*, the Cockle (*Cardium Edule*), is the most important, being used in large quantities as an article of food. It is abundant in the various sandy bays of the county.

Amongst the *Lamelli branchiata* is included the very valuable gregarious species of the Oyster (*Ostrea Edulis*). The principal oyster beds in the County of Down are at Ringhaddy, and Rostrevor, and the adjacent beds of Carlingford and Carrickfergus, are very celebrated.

Four specimens of the Carrickfergus oysters were weighed by Mr. Thompson, and one was found to be 2 lbs., another  $1\frac{3}{4}$  lb., and the two others  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lb. imperial weight. The oysters, when extracted weighed, the two largest, an ounce and a half each, and the others rather less.

The Clam (*Pecten Maximus*) is common in Strangford Lough. It is a rich fish, and sold in considerable quantities, as is also the *Pecten Operculans*, or Scallop, which is obtained, both in the Loughs of Belfast, and Strangford.

Of the genus *Mytilus*, we shall only here advert to the Edible Mussel (*Mytilus Edulis*) previously described, and the Horse Mussel (*Mytilus Vulgaris*) used for bait.†

Of the genus *Alasmodon*, the most noticeable is the *Alasmodon Margaratiferus*, or Pearl Mussel, which has been long known to yield pearls, some of them of considerable value. At a very early date, they were held in such repute that they were considered worthy of being sent as a present by Gilbert, Bishop of Limerick, to Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Pearls once abounded in the river Bann.

\* Pp. 113, 114, 116.

† See Guide to Belfast, and Jeffrey's Marine Conchology.



Dr. Lister calls these pearls "*Senescentium Musculorum vitia*," the distempers of muscles waxing old. Mr. Reaumur also observes that the formation of these pearls is the effect of disease, occasioned by the extravasation of a juice, from ruptured vessels. Reading states that a vast number of fair merchantable pearls are offered for sale, at each Summer Assizes, and some gentlemen make good advantage thereof." One bought for fifty shillings, weighing 36 carats, was valued at forty pounds, and another purchased, for £4 10s., was resold for £10, and afterwards disposed of, to Lady Glerawley, for £30, who refused for it, when set in a necklace, the sum of £80, which was offered by Lady Ormond. Most of those now found are of diminutive size, but two or three, as large as very small peas, procured from the County Tyrone rivers, are in possession of the writer. Sir Hans Sloane says the Irish pearls are of the same description as those found in England and Lorraine, and probably differing little from the British species, as described by Tacitus, "*subfusca ac liventia*," or of a pale brownish hue.

The order Foraminifera includes a peculiar kind of shells, described as foraminated polythalamous internal shells, having no chamber beyond their last partition. The greater number are microscopic. They are comparatively few in the European oceans, but they abound in the Adriatic. The fossil species are most abundant, especially in the chalk formations, and they compose the principal bulk of many. Several of these minute shells have been observed on the Down coast, and the several bays, twenty species having been dredged by Professor Williamson; but a larger number, not seen here, occur in other parts of the kingdom.

Order Entozoa.—This order includes the various worms and hydatids infesting the internal parts of man, and other animals. These parasites are of various shapes, and different organic conformations, the most important being the worms existing in the alimentary canal, and the trichinæ, principally infesting the muscular system.



Amongst the best known are the round, thread, and tape worms.

The order Amorphozoa, or Porifera, dubiously admitted into the animal kingdom, comprises various genera, of which the most remarkable are the sponges. They are numerous in the Lough of Strangford, and Bay of Belfast. Amongst observed species are *Halichondria Oculata*, *H. Hispida*, *H. Fucorum*, *H. Seriata*, and *H. Hirsuta*, *Grantia Lacunosa*, *Dysidia Fragilis*, and some others. This curious class is divided by Bowerbank, in his "British Spongidaë," into three classes, *Calcareæ*, *Silicia*, and *Keratosa*, the first having carbonate of lime, and the second, siliceous, as a basis, whilst the last has no mineral matter whatever in its composition. They are not numerous here. The calcareous sponges include *Grantia Compressa*, *Leucosolenia Lacunosa*, *Botryoides*, *Coriacea*, and *Fistulosa*, especially to be found, in the Lough of Strangford. In the Siliceous class may be enumerated, *Polymastia Mammillaris*, *Dictyocylindrus Howsei*, *Hymeniacyclops Sanguinea*, *Armatura Floreum*, and *Dujardini*, *Halichondria Pattersoni*, *Hyndmanni*, and *Dickei*, with *Halichondria Farinara*, discovered by the late William Thompson.

The fresh-water sponge, (*Spongilla Fluvialis*), is common in the rivers of the county. Among the Keratose sponges, *Chalina Oculata*, *Chalina Cervicornis*, and *Dysidia Fragilis*, have been found.

## CHAPTER XLI.

### Entomology. Insects.

TRUE insects (Muriopoda) have usually six legs, whereas the spider, formerly included in this class, has eight and sometimes ten. Insects constitute a very numerous class of animated nature, ten thousand species according to Stephens, being proper to Britain alone, and the entire numbers now known, may probably amount to 150,000; whilst Duncan informs us, that more than 100,000 kinds of beetles, have been placed in various museums.

A special acquaintance with the natural history of insects may be traced to the writings of De Geer, in Sweden, and Reaumur, in France, and to the subsequent investigations of Harris and Fitch in America; of Guérin Meneville, Bazin, Sasserini, Kohler Boirche, and Herpin, on the Continent; and of Kirby, Spence and others, in England. And still further information may be derived from the works of Patterson, Halliday, and Thompson of Belfast, as well as from the writings of Westwood, in the *Gardener's Chronicle*, and of Markwick, and others, in the *Linnean Transactions*.

Insects possess the senses of sight, touch, smell, and perhaps of hearing.

The greater number have four wings, others only two, whilst some are entirely destitute of these appendages.

The greatest number propagate their species, as birds do, by the production of eggs. The progress to mature existence is in the following order—The female insect having laid an egg, it hatches, and produces what is termed a larva, a little creature known under the various designations of maggot, gentle, caterpillar, canker-worm, or grub. The larva gradually increases in

growth, and becomes a pupa, chrysalis, aurelia or nymph. After a certain time, in which the various members of the young insect are completed, it comes forth in its perfect state, presenting the image of its parent, when it is termed imago, whether it be a flesh-fly, butter-fly, rose-moth, click-beetle or turnip-fly. It is a wise and beneficial dispensation, that insects of the parasite class, have in turn their own peculiar parasites, which prey upon their vitals, and destroy them in amazing quantities, thereby, to a certain extent, limiting their fearful ravages.

It is a common, but erroneous opinion, that the cheerful "chirping of the cricket on the hearth" is produced by an organ of voice, but this well known stridulous sound, is caused by the friction of the wings of the male elytra on each other; and the grasshopper, in like manner produces its peculiar "chick," by the attrition of its hinder legs.

The Sheep tick (*Melophagus ovis*) and the Stag tick (*Leptotænacervi*) respectively torment the animals from which they derive their names, whilst the *Scolytus destructor* destroys forest trees; and many of the aphides including the red bug (*Cimex Lactucarius*) and the coccinæ or mealy bugs are injurious to hot-house plants, and other forms of vegetable life. Amongst destructive moths we find the *Tinea tapetzella*, *Tinea Pellionella*, and *Tinea Crinella*, which prey on furs, feathers, and hair.

The Aphis plant-louse is perhaps the most troublesome of all, as it attacks in amazing numbers, every description of plant, whilst the caterpillars, moths and butterflies, of certain lepidopterous insects, prey on trees alone, each kind of tree having its own peculiar enemies, the whole amounting to more than 500 species. These creatures, to enable them to fulfil their functions, are provided with an apparatus, capable of piercing the hardest wood, and some of them can even gnaw bullets, and consume lead.

Insects, all of which are numerous here, have been arranged in orders, which are again subdivided into families, with reference to the peculiar formation of their wings, thence deriving the appellations of Coleoptera sheath-winged insects, or beetles; Orthoptera, straight-winged or crickets; Nemoptera, winged

or dragon flies; Hymenoptera, membrane-winged, or bees and gnats; Strepsiptera, twisted-winged, or stylops; Lepidoptera, scale-winged, or butterflies; Hemiptera, half-winged, or grasshoppers; Diptera, two-winged, or flies and gnats, and Aptera, or wingless fleas, and spring-tails. These orders include tiger, ground, water, sand, goat, rove, hag, helmet, sun, and springing beetles, as well as death-watches, wood-borers, earwigs, cockroaches, scorpion-flies, dragon-flies, lion-ants, white-ants, caddis-flies, lady-cows, saw-flies, sand-wasps, ants, ichneumon-flies, hornets, wasps, and sand-bees. To these may be added butterflies, hawk-moths, gnats, long-legs, blood-suckers, gad-flies, house-flies, forest-flies, fleas, lice, bird-lice, bugs, masked bugs, skip-jacks, water-scorpions, water-boatmen, tree-hoppers, and plant-lice.

Amongst butter-flies we may enumerate the large, small, and green-veined white, the grayling, the painted lady, the red admiral, the lilac blue, and *Argynnis Paphia*, as well-deserving attention, whilst moths include the Poplar Hawk Moth, the Death's Head, the Elephant Hawk, the Humming Bird Moth, the Narrow Bee Hawk, the Golden and various other Swifts, the Fox, and Pebble Moths, the Swallow, the Wood, and Ruby Tiger, the Buff Ermine, the Oak Eggar, the Emperor, together with the *Sphæcia Bembeciformis*, *Demas Coryli*, *Callimorpha Jacobæa*, and *Pæcilocampa Populi*. In the division Geometrina, we meet with the Swallow-tail, Brimstone, Barred-red, Latticed Heath, Early Thorn, Dark Annulet, Grass Emerald, and Tissue Moths, together with *Epione Apiciaria*, *Ennomos Erosaria*, *Nemoria Viridata*, and various species of Rivulet and Pug Moths. Some of the *Pyrallides* and *Tortices* are also observed.

In the class Noctuidæ, we meet with *Cymatophora duplaris*, *Nonagria typhæ*, *Xylophasia sublustris*, *Rurea*, *Polydon*, *Lithoxylea*, *Grammesia trilinea*, *Agrotis valligera*, *Corticea*, *Noctua brunnea*, *Noctua glareosa*, *Tæniampa*, *Anchocelis rufina*, *Cerastis vaccinii*, *Hecatera serena*, *Hadena pisi*, *Calocampa exoleta*, *Cucullea chamomillæ*, *Xylina petrificata*, *Anarta myrtilli*, *Mania typica*, and several others.

The subject of insects, destructive to the various kinds of vegetables, and other agricultural produce, treated in a masterly manner by Mr. Curtis, in his beautiful and highly interesting work, on Farm Insects, is of great practical importance, deserving some consideration. Of the Beetle tribe (Genus *Altica*) of which probably there are an hundred species, comprising the *Altica consobrina*, *Altica obscurella*, and *Altica concinna*, the most injurious to the turnip is the *Altica nemorum*, which is variously termed the striped turnip, or earth flea beetle, and the black jack, or turnip flea. This destructive insect which hybernates in winter, is from three fourths, to one and a quarter of a line, in length, with a mouth and teeth perfectly adapted by their conformation and strength, for piercing, and devouring the turnip-leaf. This beautiful little creature is shining, minutely punctured, and marked with two ochre coloured stripes, running down the wing cases, whilst the legs are of a rusty hue, and the thighs and feet are pitch-coloured. The thickness of its thighs enables the creature to take leaps, which may be truly described as enormous, and from this extraordinary power, it has received the appellation of Skip Jack. The greatest extent of its leap is about 216 times the length of its body. It flies with facility, and its power of smelling is so acute, that it will forsake all other food, for the turnip, as soon as it becomes apparent in May or June. Little injury is done by the egg, or by the maggot, although the first is laid in the under side of the long leaves of the plant, and the latter feeds on them, but it is in its perfect state, that the creature commits the most serious injury, by destroying the two first smooth leaves or cotyledons, as well as the heart of the plant.

Another insect, most injurious to all kinds of vegetables, is the Turnip Saw-fly, the caterpillar of which is black, and named variously the Black Palmer, Black Cotter, Black Jack, Black Slug, and Nigger or Negro. The visits of this most destructive creature are happily only rare and occasional, as it comes in myriads, and utterly destroys the turnip crop, at an advanced period of its growth. The Turnip Saw-fly is of a different order from the

Turnip Fly, the first being coleopterous, and the latter hymenopterous, and they also differ in this, that the ravages of the first are committed, whilst the creature is in its perfect, or beetle state, and it is only the caterpillar or larva of the latter, which is capable of doing any mischief.

Of the very destructive species of *Athaliæ*, the *Athalia Spinorum* particularly affects the turnip crop. This fly is of a bright orange colour, with a head short, broad, and black, having the eyes, which are lateral, of the same colour. It has four wings, also tipped at the joints with black. On being touched, it closes its wings, and contracting its legs and horns, counterfeits death.

The Saw-fly generally appears in May. The female deposits her eggs in a leaf, in which an incision is made by lancets, concealed in her interior, and when she has finished laying, she dies. The number of eggs is from 250 to 300, which in five days are hatched, and the caterpillar subsequently eats its way through the shell. When it first emerges, it is scarcely visible, being only about one-tenth of an inch long. In less than two minutes, it begins to feed voraciously, from the under surface of the leaf, so that in a short period, it is entirely drilled through. When full grown, it is about three-fourths of an inch in length. Subsequently it enters into the earth one or two inches below the surface, but it is several weeks before it attains the chrysalis state.

The class of Aphides, including the *Aphis dubia*, or Black-spotted Turnip-leaf Plant Louse, the *Aphis brassica*, or Cabbage Plant Louse, and the *Aphis floris raphæ*, are most destructive, but they are happily kept in check by birds, beetles, severe frosts, flies, and the larvæ of the *Coccinellæ* or Ladybirds, which destroy them by myriads.

The Aphides injure plants by piercing them with their rostrum or beak, and destroying their sap. The females are both oviparous and viviparous, and their increase is so prodigious, that a single individual might have an offspring, if unharmed, of 5900 millions in a single year.

The Turnip Diamond Black Moth is also a determined enemy



to the turnip crop, as well as the caterpillar of a moth termed *Noctua agrotis*.

The male of the *Aphis rapæ* is ochraceous, and the female bright green. The females produce their young, in from four to seven days, and taking thirty, as the average of each brood, from a single *Aphis* would be produced, in seven generations, if unchecked, the incomputable number of 729,000,000 individuals. But not only seven, but sometimes twenty generations, are produced in a year. Having laid their eggs, and thus provided for the continuance of their race, they generally die on the approach of winter.

There are various species of Butterflies, injurious to vegetable life, but the small White, or Turnip Butterfly, principally infects the turnip.

Surface Caterpillars or Grubs chiefly affect the roots of plants. The most conspicuous of these Caterpillars come from the Cabbage, the Great Yellow, and Underwing Moths, and a few others, all of the lepidopterous class. Caterpillars are universal feeders. They pass the winter under ground, and in May or June, they enter the earth, to change to a chrysalis state.

The Turnip Gall Weevil, or *Curculio*, is produced from an incision in the turnip bulb, and is very destructive.

Insects affecting the Potato crop are very numerous, and comprise plant lice, wire worms, millepedes, mites, beetles, plant bugs, frog flies, caterpillars, and crane flies. The Potato disease, in all probability, is not occasioned by insects, but by atmospheric influences. In 1847, Aphides were abundant, and potatoes sound, and in 1848, no Aphides were to be found, but the potatoes were worse than in any previous year. Some insects affect the roots of these plants, and others puncture the leaves, but it is only when they are sufficiently numerous to smother the plants, that they cause any real mischief.

Of the class of Flies, the *Sapronizza obsoleta* is said to lay its eggs in the young shoots of potatoes, and thereby cause them to rot, and this was at one time argued to be the cause of the potato

blight. Curtis says, they may injure the leaves, but do not cause rot, for when the leaves are most decayed, there is not one bad tuber. Ground fleas, which are innumerable, have also, but incorrectly, been said to be the cause of the potato disease, and Cimicidæ or plant bugs, of various species, are likewise, but erroneously, alleged to be the cause, although, no doubt, they live on the foliage of the leaves.

The Potato frog flies are more abundant than plant bugs, and two species inhabit the potato.

The Sphinx atropos, Death's-head Moth, or Tete de Mort, so called from the image impressed on it, produces green striped caterpillars, two in number, which feed on potato leaves. On the Continent, it is considered the messenger of pestilence and famine, if not of death. This moth will enter bee hives, and destroy the honey, and hence it is called the Bee tiger Moth. It is as big as a bat, and can utter a faint, feeble cry. It reposes in the attitude of the classic sphinx of Egypt, and hence its distinctive name. It comes out to feed at night, and grows, until nearly the size of a lad's middle finger, when it is of a yellowish-greenish tint, and termed *Acherontia*.

Of the Acari or Mites, one species, viz., the *Oribates castaneus*, feeds on the fungus of potatoes. Surface grubs, which affect the tubers, attack the haulm, beneath the earth, and eat through it.

The larvæ of the Tipulæ or Crane Flies are innumerable, and extremely injurious to potatoes, turnip, beet, and carrots. They are so called from the beaked head, and attitude of the body and legs, in flight, and a familiar name is Old Father Long-legs.

Snake Millepedes are found in large numbers on potatoes, as soon as any symptoms of decay appear, and the insects found amongst them, when decomposition has commenced, are also varied and numerous.

The Colorado or Golden Apple Beetle (*Doryphora decemlineata*), which resembles a large lady bird, has been known for more than a century, but recently it has shewn a propensity to migrate, from its original home in Central America, having now reached the Dominion of Canada. The eggs are laid on

the leaves or stems, but not on the roots, of the potato plant, and the larvæ, having attained their full growth, descend into the earth, to undergo their transformation into pupæ or beetles, of which there are several broods in the year, and the risk is, that they may possibly be exported to this, and other countries with the tubers, if not carefully cleaned from the earth and haulm. Fields of potatoes, attacked by this pest, are soon cleared of every particle of vegetation, and the crop entirely destroyed. No remedy, with the exception of hand-picking, has yet been devised, and the application of a mixture of Scheele's green and flour.

Insects affecting carrots and parsnips are the Carrot-leaf Plant Louse (*Aphis Dauci*), which kills one-tenth of the crops about midsummer, whilst another *Aphis* affects the roots in autumn. Rust is occasioned by the maggots of certain flies, viz., the *Psila Rosæ*, and the *Psila nigricarnis*, which bore labyrinths through the tap root. Slugs also inhabit the unsound roots.

A little flat Bog Moth (*Depressaria pastinacella*) is bred upon the parsnips. The parsnip plant louse is closely allied to the turnip-leaved aphid, if not identical.

The Swallowtail and other Butterflies, and common Flat Bog Moth, lay their eggs in the carrot, though they greatly prefer the parsnip.

Mangel-wurtzel was formerly supposed to be free from the attacks of insects, but the larvæ of a beetle termed *Silpha*, which appeared, in 1844, in Tyrone, and, in 1847, in Londonderry, and the Shield Beetle (*Cassida nebulosa*), the Crane Fly (*Tipula oleracea*), the *Allica nemorum*, and *Atomaria linearis*, are all destructive, the last in particular, as it devours both leaves and roots, and thereby renders the cultivation of the crop impracticable.

Insects injuriously affecting peas and beans are millepedes or weevils, maggots, bees, plant lice, grain beetles, moths, and the mole cricket. The weevils commit the greatest ravages in April. The earlier crops are destroyed by the millipedes, which feed on the edge of the leaves, and fall down as if dead, when approached. They attack beans also, as well as clover, and lucerne. Bees

render peas abortive, by drilling a hole, at the base of the flower, into the embryo pod. Peas are sometimes smothered with aphides, called green dolphins, and beans, with the black dolphin. Peas and beans are also attacked by beetles, the *Bruchus granarius* being the species chiefly infecting our crops. By immersing peas in boiling water, from one to four minutes, the insects will be killed, but the vitality of the pea will be destroyed. The increase of these creatures is so prodigious, that they would cause famine, if it were not for an extraordinary propensity of the female, which leads her to devour nine-tenths of her offspring.

In the early period of its growth, wheat is liable to be injured by the larvæ of certain beetles familiarly designated "grubs," and at a more advanced stage, by several species of flies, one of the most destructive being the "*Cecidomyia tritici*," a creature with an orange-coloured body and white wings, which deposits her eggs, in the ear of the wheat, where the progeny, which feeds on the grain, is hatched. In the granary, wheat is subject to the attack of weevil.

Mole Crickets are a dreadful scourge in Germany, one-fourth of the corn crops there being sometimes destroyed. The mole cricket is omnivorous, but it can live for ten months without food, and when numerous, they fight and devour each other.

The insects injurious to clover crops are various species of the weevil tribe, including *Curculio linealis*, the purple clover weevil, and *Apion flavipes*, the yellow-legged, or Dutch clover weevil, the grass eggar moth, the medich eggar moth, the burnet moth, and some others. Tares are infested by a multitude of beetles and moths, and Vetches are also seriously injured by little weevils, which likewise attack saintfoin, and they all frequently suffer from plant lice. Various snails are also destructive to vegetation, including the garden snail (*Helix hortensis*), and a smaller species, which abound in the fields and hedges, but the injury committed by them is insignificant compared to that of the slugs (*Limaces*) the most common of which are the milky, the black, and the black striped, species.

Several descriptions of plant lice, and earwigs, are destructive both in pastures, and gardens, but when pressed with hunger they will destroy each other.

The fetid rose beetle, or the devil's coach horse, (*Staphylinus olens*) consumes them in vast numbers. The genus of gnats, comprised under the name of *Tipulæ*, of which there are upwards of thirty British species, are also most formidable enemies to Gardeners and Farmers. Other pests are grasshoppers and locusts, the former of which comprise twenty species. The locust is migratory, and comes but in small numbers, but where numerous, they destroy all before them.

Ants likewise are injurious to a certain extent.

Worms, which are extremely troublesome, are effectually destroyed by a solution of salt.

Wire worms are the larvæ of elaters or beetles, called familiarly skip-jacks, or club-beetles. None of the destructive creatures, which we have been describing, are more difficult to overcome, as they are omnivorous, and insatiable in their voracity, destroying alike wheat, barley, oats, grass, potatoes, hops, and other vegetables. There are seventy species of beetles, which produce wire-worms of different kinds, but of similar economy. They are called elaters from their extraordinary power of leaping up, when placed on the back. The eggs of the beetles produce larvæ or wire-worms, which change to pupæ or chrysalides, and from these again emerge the beetles. The wire-worm is of a pale ochreous colour. It descends into the earth to become a chrysalis. Wire-worms eat into the stem of the plant, above the root, which is thus destroyed. When fully hatched, they are nearly an inch in length. The larvæ of crane flies are erroneously called wire-worms by the farmers. In coping with this very formidable enemy, hemlock and fool's parsley should be eradicated, as wireworms eagerly resort to these plants. Gardens formed out of pasture ground are greatly infested, and turnip crops after clover lea, suffer severely, but by constantly dislodging them, they may probably be driven from a locality.



Various other insects, erroneously called wire-worms, including eight species of click beetles, are also destructive to vegetation.

There are, likewise, different ground beetles and flies, which attack the corn crops, such as the British wheat midge, wheat louse, wheat bug, plant louse, corn bug, false wireworm, and a little worm termed vibrio. Other species affecting the corn, both in the field and granary, not indigenous to this country, are imported in cargoes of grain, and the injury they do is very great. Cleanliness in granaries tends to check their spread.

Wheat attacked by the *Butalus cereatellus*, will lose forty per cent. of actual weight, and seventy-five per cent. of flour. These creatures live in the various grains which appear sound to the eye, but are soft to the touch. Caterpillars cannot bear a lower temperature than 55° of Fahrenheit, at 46° they become torpid, and soon die, and they may be destroyed by a temperature of 167°.

It is incredible what injury is done to bonded corn, by a little grain moth termed wolf, and in order to obviate injury from this source, a granary before being filled, should be kiln dried by a heat of 75°, which will effectually destroy the larvæ. The burning of sulphur, and the introduction of cold currents of air, through windows placed near the floors, sprinkling with powdered salt, or salt and water, are also efficient remedies.

The rice-weevil is extremely destructive. The grain-weevil bores a hole in the pickle, and deposits its egg, which cannot be detected by the sight, but the injured grains will float in water. Fleeces of wool attract and kill the weevil, and bats, spiders, and small birds destroy them in myriads.\*

Having thus briefly sketched the history of insects of this class, the practical question as to the best mode of meeting the evil, and securing the crops from injury by these destructive agricultural pests now arises. Many remedies have been suggested, and on turning to the various treatises on the subject, including

\* Newport in the *Cyclopædia of Anatomy and Physiology* ; *Transformation of Insects* by P. Martin Duncan ; and Curtis on *Farm Insects*.



the British Entomology, the Farm Insects of Curtis, and the Works of Copeland, Low, Stephens, and other writers, on agricultural subjects, we find the following plans variously recommended:—

Paring and burning of the surface soil, summer fallowing, shallow ploughing, avoidance of cropping twice in succession, with the same plant, folding with oxen and sheep, drainage, and keeping the soil clean, hoeing and heavy rolling, in the early morning, late, and thick sowing of corn crops, soot, hellebore powder, marl, chalk, wood-ashes, oil, soap suds, boiling water, nitrate of soda, tobacco water, salt and water, coal dust, fumigation with sulphur, chloride of lime, dusting with pepper or camphor, shaking of the plants to which aphides are attached, dressing of the ground before sowing, picking out and burning infected roots, and turning in ducks and poultry.

The selection of the remedies must be determined, with reference to the particular crop affected, but they are so numerous as to inspire doubts as to the complete efficacy of any particular plan. Extirpation of weeds, especially the *Cardamine pratensis*, a favourite food with certain insects, will have a beneficial effect.

Some insects, unknown in Down, occur in the southern parts of the kingdom, of which the magnificent Peacock butterfly is an example. On the other hand, I am not aware that there is any species known here, which has not been observed, in other parts of the island, if the gorgeous and gigantic Death's-head moth be not an exception.

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## CHAPTER XLII.

### Arachneology, Spiders, Mites, and Scorpions.

THIS class of beings was long included in the order of Insecta, until formally separated, in consequence of the researches of La Marcke, and other naturalists, their peculiar conformation being sufficient to distinguish them, both from the insect and crustacean tribes.

The Spider, a fierce little creature, is a well-known denizen, of both the castle, and the cottage. The artistic skill displayed in the weaving of its web, is truly wonderful. A curious point in the history of the spider, is the proneness of the female to devour the male, which is much the more diminutive, and inspired with a deadly fear of his consort. This creature has the curious faculty, as fully ascertained by Lepelletier, of reproducing an entire limb, if wounded, or removed by accident, but not a portion of a limb, as the creature then bleeds to death. But an analogous, and even more wonderful power, is possessed by the Hydrozoe, for when cut into pieces, each portion will, in a short time, become a perfect creature, like the prototype.

The Arachnida differ from insects, which are hexapodous, in having no antennæ, in usually having eight eyes, and eight legs, although some species have six and some ten, and in the peculiar conformation of their respiratory apparatus. The greater number of the arachnida are carnivorous, their organs being peculiarly adapted for their predatory life. They have unquestionably the sense of hearing, although an auditory organ has not been discovered, and their sense of touch is extremely acute.

A comprehensive account of the arachnidans may be referred to

in the paper of Dr. Audouin, in the *Cyclopædia of Anatomy*,\* in which their classification and peculiar construction are fully described. They are arranged in various divisions, principally with reference to peculiarities in their habits, and modes of securing their prey. They include two great orders, the *Araneidæ*, or Spiders proper, and the *Pedipalpi* or Scorpions. The majority of this class deposit their eggs, in great numbers, excluding them from a cavity behind the breast. The eggs do not assume the globular shape until laid, after which the female parent encloses them in a silken envelope, the whole forming a sort of ball.

Of the general habits of this curious creature, a full account may be found in the writings of La Marck, Latreille, Leach, Clerck, Dufour, Blackwall, and others.

The Spider is provided with a suitable apparatus, for emitting a poisonous secretion, from moveable and exceedingly sharp claws, with which its mandibles are armed. This fluid is of so deadly a nature, that a fly, when wounded by a spider, immediately expires.

The Scorpion tribe have also a poison apparatus, but it is not placed, like that of the spider, in the mandibles, but at the posterior part of the body, in the ultimate segment of the tail-shaped abdomen, from which the deadly virus is emitted through a very minute opening.

The power of self-destruction has been attributed to the spider, but there is no satisfactory proof to warrant our belief in so dubious a phenomenon. The popular opinion has, however, been taken advantage of, in the graphic lines of the poet, known, I doubt not, to most of my readers.

“ The mind that broods o’er guilty woes  
Is like the scorpion girt by fire,  
In circle narrowing as it glows,  
The flames around their captive close,  
Till inly searched by thousand throes,  
And maddening in her ire,

\* Article *Arachnida*. See also *Penny Cyclopedia*, under the same head.

One sole and sad relief she knows,  
 The sting she nourished for her foes,  
 Whose venom never yet was vain,  
 Gives but one pang, and cures all pain  
 And darts into her desperate brain." \*

There is a second order of Arachnidans, viz., the Trachearies or Acaridæ, as they have been termed. comprising many species, which elude observation from their minuteness. They include—

The Mites, Trombidites,

Ticks, Ricinites,

Water Mites, Hydrachnellæ, and

Flesh Worms, Microphthira,

the last-mentioned class being distinguished from the others, by having six feet, in place of eight. These different species live variously, on land and water, or fixed upon certain animals, whose blood they suck, and they sometimes insinuate themselves beneath the skin, and multiply to an extent exceeding belief. For the purpose of feeding, some species are furnished with mandibles or jaws, others have pincers, claws, or syphons, and a third class, mere cavities as suckers.

\* Byron's Giaour.

## CHAPTER XLIII.

### BOTANY.

THE Flora of Down, principally included within Watson's British type of vegetation, is both varied and interesting, but no complete and separate description of the plants comprised in it has as yet been published. They, amount, however, to nearly one-half the number contained in the *Cybele Britannica*, which enumerates the indigenous and naturalised British plants, as amounting to 1400, or 1500, this last being the number admitted by Babington, into his *Manual of the Irish Flora*. Of these, 1082 have been recorded as Irish, and the *Ulster Flora* of Dickie comprises more than 800, whilst the *Flora Belfastiensis*, of Tate, includes 602 species observed in a district in Down and Antrim, lying within fifteen miles of Belfast. Most of the individuals enumerated by Dickie, are to be found in the counties mentioned, and taking them, at the lowest, as more than 700, about thirty-six species have been observed in the former, which are not known in the latter county, whilst, on the other hand, about eighty-two, indigenous in Antrim, have not hitherto been met with in Down. More than six hundred are common to both counties, and comprise\* individuals included amongst the flowering and non-flowering plants, in the several orders of Decandolle and Lindley. One of the most important of these orders, is the *Gramineæ*, of which about sixty species, occur in Down. Amongst these we may mention, on account of their value, *anthoxanthum odoratum*, sweet-scented vernal grass, *agrostes stolonifera*, joint grass; *bellis*

\* Guide to Belfast. Theorie Elementaire. Synopsis of the British Flora.

perennis, the daisy ; *briza media*, common quaking grass, acceptable to all cattle ; *bromus mollis*, excellent for hay ; *dactylis glomerata*, rough cocks-foot grass ; *festuca pratensis*, meadow fescue grass ; *holcus lanatus*, white grass ; *lolium perenne*, rye grass ; *lolium Italicum*, Italian rye grass ; *phleum pratense*, timothy grass ; *plantago*, narrow-leaved plantain ; and cow grass, *trifolium pratense*. A pretty full list of this order, drawn up by the late Mr. Templeton, is contained in Dubourdieu's Survey of the County of Down. In making a selection of grasses, regard is to be had to the object in view, whether the production of hay, green forage, or the ornamentation of lawns.

In the order *Hydrocharidaceæ*, is included *anacharis alsinastrium*, or water thyme, a peculiar and troublesome plant, with a description of which I have been favoured by Professor Hodges. It is found in the Lagan river and canal, and in various ponds adjacent, and is supposed to have been introduced from America, having been first noticed in these kingdoms, in 1842, in a pond at Dunse Castle, in Berwickshire. It grows vigorously, filling up the water, and it is extremely difficult to eradicate it.

The order *Lycopodiaceæ* includes the mosses, not yet sufficiently examined, but about 234 species are known to the North of Ireland, amounting to rather more than one-half of the Irish, and one-third of the British mosses, which comprise amongst various others, *Lycopodium clavatum*, clubmoss, *Tetraplodon minioides*, *Bartrami ithyphylla*, *Glypomitrium Daviesii*, *Grimmia spiralis*, *Didymodon cylindricus*, *Fissidens incurvus*, *Tayloria serrata*, and *Soligeria pusilla*, recently recorded by Mr. S. A. Stewart.

The Fungi of Down are not as yet well known, and the lichens also require further investigation.

Many of the Fuci, some of them very rare, whether of the olive, red, or green species, are well known to naturalists,\* their habitats being the shores of the county, or the Loughs of Strangford and

\* Belfast Guide, pp. 88 and 89.



Belfast. These include the following, and many other species :—*Bangia elegans*, *Sphacelaria filicina*, *Sertularia plumosa*, *Punctuaria latifolia*, *Striaria attenuata*, *Ectocarpus Mertensii*, *Odontophora dentata*, *Polysiphonia subulifera*, *Chrysocladia kaliformis*, *Ginania furcellata*, *Kallymenia reniformis*, *Ceranium nodosum*, *Cladophora uncialis*, three species of *Callithamnion*, *Gracilaria erecta*, *Wrangelia multifida*, and *Cladophora gracilis*, and further research will, no doubt, considerably add to the list already known.

The Filices or Ferns are a beautiful and interesting class of plants, to which much attention has been paid of late years. The number of known ferns throughout the globe amount to 600 or 700, but the British species to only about 50. From its moisture, the climate of Ireland is well adapted to their growth, and thirty-one kinds are known, many of them being common in Down. In this class are included Broad Buckler Fern, *Lastrea dilatata*, common Lady Fern, (*Athyrium filix foemina*), Maiden-hair Spleenwort, (*Asplenium trichomanes*), Black Maiden-hair Spleenwort, (*Asplenium adiantum nigrum*), and common Brake Fern or Bracken *Pteris aquilina*. A curious variety of the Adder's tongue Fern has been observed near the entrance of Mount Stewart demesne.

The following additional species, and various others, are enumerated in the Belfast Guide, a work containing, in brief space, a very large amount of valuable information :—*Lastrea filix mas*, the very rare Oak Fern, *Polopodium dryopteris*, *Polystichum aculeatum*, *Lastrea montana*, the Sweet Mountain Fern, *Asplenium marinum*, Sea Spleenwort, *Asplenium Ruta muraria*, *Cystopteris fragilis*, *Hymenophyllum Tunbridgensis*, *Osmunda*, or the Royal Fern, *Botrychium lunare*, *Apophyglossum vulgare*, and *Polystichum proliferum*.

The plants, in which the county is most deficient, are those peculiar to mountainous and limestone districts, but the various rocky beaches, dunes, sandy bays, marshes, muddy shores, and alluvial, clayey, and moory districts, produce the different species appropriate to the several soils. In rocky and sandy grounds we meet, amongst various others, with the long, smooth-headed Poppy, (*Pa-*

paver dubium), Pansy Violet, (*Viola tricolor*), Mithridate Pepperwort (*Lepidium campestre*), Annual Knawell, (*Scleranthus annuus*), Thyme-leaved Sandwort, (*Areonaria serpyllifolia*), Corn Cockle, (*Lychnis githago*), Broom, (*Sarothamnus scoparius*), Bladder Campion, (*Silene inflata*), Small Bugloss, (*Lycopsis arvensis*), Mugwort, (*Artemisia vulgaris*), Thrift, (*Armeria maritima*), Sea Campion, (*Silene maritima*), Sea Sandwort, (*Lepigonum neglectum*), White English Stone crop, (*Sedum anglicum*), Vernal Squill, (*Scilla verna*), and Buckthorn Plantain, (*Plantago coronopus*).

To the above we may add — *Phleum ageniarum*, *Atriplex arenaria*, *Euphorbia paralias*, *Polygonum Raii*, *Echinum vulgare*, *Iola Curtisii*, *Vicia lathyroides*, and *Glaucum luteum*.

On the summit of Slieve Donard, have been noticed, *Poa pratensis*, *Festuca ovina*, *Arbutus uva ursi*, *Empetrum*, *Luzula sylvatica*, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Galium sextatile*, *Salix herbacea*, *Carex rigidus*, *Carex pilulifera*, and *Vaccinium myrtillus* (Blueberry); and the following species have been observed, amongst various others, from the summit of that mountain downwards:—

*Juniperus nana*,  
*Pinguicula lusitanica*,  
*Lobelia Dortmanna*,  
*Viola canina*, Dog's Violet,  
*Scirpus caespitosus*, Scaly-stalk bulrush,  
*Blechnum boreale*, Northern hard fern,  
*Campanula rotundifolia*, Round-leaved Bell flower,  
*Salix herbacea*,  
*Potentilla Tormentilla*, Common tormentil,  
*Erica cinerea*, Fir-leaved Heath,  
*Erica tetralix*, Saxifraga airoides,  
*Schoenus nigricans*, Black Bog Rush,  
*Thymus Serpyllum*, Wild Thyme,  
*Vaccinium Vitis-Idaea*, and  
*Nardus stricta*, Mat Grass.

In the Cotton moss at Donaghadee are found *Andromeda*, *Myrica gale*, *Vaccinium oxycoccus*, and *Drosera anglica*. *Elatine*

Hydropiper, (Water wort), occurs in Holywood moss, and *Bidens tripartita*, Three-cleft Bur Marigold, and *Bidens cernua*, Nodding Bur Marigold, in Ballygowan moss, whilst *Drosera rotundifolia*, Roundleaved Sundew, *Utricularia minor*, Smaller Bladder wort, *Hydrocotyle vulgaris*, Marsh Penny wort, *Comarum palustre*, Marsh Cinque foil, and *Eriophorum angustifolium*, Common Cotton Grass, may be collected in various moist situations.

The sandy bays of the north-east shore yield Grass-leaved Sea orache, (*Atriplex arenaria*), *Polygonum Raii*, Sea Carex, (*Carex arenaria*), and Tea-wheat Grass, (*Triticum junceum*); and on the north shore of Strangford Lough, we find Sea Sandwort, (*Lepigonum neglectum*), Jointed Glasswort, (*Salicornia herbacea*), Sea wrack, (*Zostera marina*), Frosted Sea orache, (*Atriplex arenaria*), and Black Saltwort, (*Glaux maritima*). To these may be added, *Papaver hybridum*, *Barbarea intermedia*, *Rubus fissus*, *Lamium intermedium*, *Valeriana carinata*, *Acorus calamus*, *Elatine Hexandra*, *Blysmus rufus*, *Polygonum minus*, *Centunculus minimus*, *Glaucium luteum*, (occurring near Greencastle), *Metensia maritima*, and *Ceratophyllum* or Gipsywort, found in the Quoile.

The marshes at Groomsport, Bangor, Comber, and Holywood produce many of the *Cyperaceæ*, including—

Sea plantain, (*Plantago maritima*),

Wild celery, (*Apium graveolens*),

Brook lime, (*Samolus valerandi*), and others.

On the alluvial soil along the lower banks of the River Lagan, we meet with—

Celery-leaved crowfoot, *Ranunculus sceleratus*,

Sea starwort, *Aster trifolium*,

Sea tassel grass, *Rappia rostellata*,

Common reed, *Phragmites communis*,

Yellow water lily, *Nuphar lutea*,

Water lily, *Villarsia nymphaeoides*,

Floating pond reed, *Potamogeton natans*,

Forget me not, *Myosotis palustris*,

Purple loose stripe, *Lythrum salicaria*,

*Lycopus Europaeus*,  
 Flowering rush, *Butomus umbellatus*, and  
 Branched bur reed, *Sparganeum Ramosum*,  
 with several varieties of *Carex*. Other marsh-grown plants are—  
 Floating club rush, *Scirpus fluitans*,  
 Saggon, *Iris pseudo acorus*,  
 Water purslane, *Peplis portula*,  
 Lesser-pear wort, *Ranunculus flammula*,  
 and various species of the *Orchides* and *Juncaceæ*.

The following species are believed to exist, but the occurrence, of some of them at least, is questionable :—

*Corydalis claviculata*,  
*Brassica Monensis*,  
*Tilia parvifolia*, in various woods,  
*Hypericum montanum*, on Malloch Hill,  
*Lotus angustissimus*, on the shore below Holywood,  
*Vicia orobus*, on Rostrevor Hill,  
*Centaurea scabiosa*,  
*Artemisia maritima*,  
*Scrophularia scorodonia*,  
*Plantago media*,  
*Polygonum maritimum*, and  
*Carex axillaris*.

We may also add, *Saxifraga*, naturalized in Cultra demesne,  
*Centranthus*, at New Castle,  
*Anchusa semper virens*, in the ruins of Greyabbey,  
*Veronica Bauxbaumii*, near Comber,  
*Antirrhinum Majus*, about Lisburn,  
*Centaurea jacea*, at Drumbridge,  
*Senecio sarosenicus*, at Balloch,  
*Artemisia campestris*, *Gnaphalium luteo-album*, *matricaria*, and  
*Parthenium*, about Holywood, and

*Linaria cymbelaria*, at Crawfordsburn, and Bryansford.

Plants, important, as regards the proper cultivation of the soil, familiarly termed weeds, form a very numerous class, usually

arranged with reference to their duration, as annual, biennial, and perennial. Many of them, but by no means all, will be found in the following list :—

*Sinapis arvensis*, Wild mustard, *Raphanus Raphanistrum*, Wild radish, *Papaver Rhoeas*, Corn poppy, *Centaurea Cyanus*, Corn blue bottle, *Chrysanthemum segetum*, Corn marigold, *Sonchus oleraceus*, Sow thistle, *Cnicus lanceolatus*, Spear plume thistle, *Arctium Lappa*, Burdock, *Agrostemma githago*, Corn cockle, *Stellaria media*, Common chickweed, *Lolium temulentum*, Bearded darnel, *Spergula arvensis*, Corn spurrey, *Urtica urens*, Small nettle, *Lamium purpureum*, Red dead nettle, *Avena fatua*, Bearded wild oat, *Polygonum convolvulus*, Climbing buckwheat, *Senecio Jacobea*, Common ragwort, *Tussilago farfara*, Coltsfoot, *Aegopodium podagraria*, Bishop's weed or Farmer's plague, *Chrysanthemum Leucanthemum*, Great white oxeye, *Cnicus arvensis*, Corn or way thistle, *Centaurea nigra*, Black knapweed, *Lamium album*, White deadnettle, *Rumex obtusifolius*, Broad-leaved dock, *Polygonum amphibium*, Amphibious persicaria, *Urtica dioica*, Great nettle, *Agrostis alba*, Marsh bent grass, *Triticum repens*, Common wheat grass, Couch grass, or quick, *Juncus effusus*, Soft rush, and *Leontodon Taraxacum*, Dandelion.

There are three kinds of native Heath, viz., Fine-leaved heath, *Erica cinerea*, distinguished by its leaves being arranged in threes, around the stem, and by its bearing vase-shaped blossoms of a deep rich purple colour.

Cross-leaved heath, *Erica tetralix*, recognised by its blush-tinted flowers, arranged in a clustered head, and by its leaves grouped in fours, around the stem, whilst the Common heath or ling, *Erica vulgaris*, differs from the preceding varieties, in its flowers not being pitcher-shaped, but having divided petals, forming bell-shaped blossoms, of a delicate purplish-pink colour.

All three species have white flowers occasionally, but they always preserve their distinctive shapes. The ling constitutes the great mass of the heather, which clothes in beauty all the mountains of the county.

The most of the following plants are cultivated for forage, viz., Sainfoin, Onobrychus, and the beautiful French honeysuckle, (*Hedysarum coronarium*), too delicate for field culture, but growing in gardens with great luxuriance.

To these we may add the Whin, (*Ulex Europaeus*), affording a cheap and nutritious food for animals, Lucerne, (*Medicago sativa*), very rarely cultivated here, though cows at pail, when fed with it, produce abundant milk, Black medick, sometimes termed yellow clover, indigenous on gravelly soils; different varieties of red clover, (*Trifolium pratense*), and (*Trifolium minus*), frequently grown as yellow clover. The leaves of the two last are often worn as shamrock, on St. Patrick's Day.

Amongst indigenous herbage plants, some of them very valuable, although not forming objects of cultivation, are various kinds of Vetchling, or everlasting, (*Lathyrus*), including yellow and meadow vetchling, and narrow and broad-leaved Everlasting, together with King's clover, (*Mellilotus officinalis*), White-flowered melilot, (*Melilotus leucantha*), Common bird's-foot trefoil, (*Lotus corniculatus*), and Greater bird's-foot trefoil, (*Lotus major*).

The peculiar class of plants, termed parasites, from having their roots fixed in the bark of trees, from which they derive their support, are unknown here, although three species are frequent enough in Great Britain, comprising the Mistletoe, and two species of Dodder, *Cuscuta*, which last are quaintly described by Threlkeld "as having no leaves, and after fastening their claspers on another plant, like a coshering parasite, lives upon another's trencher, and it is an ungrateful guest, first living upon, and then starving, its entertainer."

Amongst plants observed in Antrim, the following species have not as yet been discovered in Down :—

*Aquilegia vulgaris*, *Cardamine impatiens*, *Viola sylvatica*, *Lonicera caprifolium*, *Galium borealis*, *Eupatoria cannabinum*, *Scutellaria galericulata*, *Viola lutea*, *Botrychium lunaria*, *Carex Bauxbaumii*, and several others, whilst *Ornithopus perpusillus*, *Centaurea scabiosa*, *Trago pogon pratensis*, *Calamintha clinopodium*,



and *Hordeum murinum*, though growing in some other parts of Ireland, are not found here.

The indigenous growth of the Cowslip, *Primula veris*, is very questionable.

*Galium cruciatum* occurs only at one place, which is near Downpatrick, as I am informed by Professor Hodges, a native of that town.

Harris enumerates the following plants, occurring in the Botany of the County, as known in his day :—

*Alcea vulgaris*, seu *Malva verbenacea*, Vervain, *Cruciata vulgaris*, Crosswort or Mugweed, *Chamaemelum vulgare*, Common chamomile, *Consolida major*, Comfrey, *Hyacinthus Anglicus*, Harebell, *Ptarmica vulgaris*, Sneezewort, or bastard pellitory, *Savina folio cupressi*, Savin with cypress leaves, (not mentioned as growing spontaneously, except on Mount Athos), *Cichorium sylvestre*, Wild succory, *Adiantum*, Common black maiden hair, or oak fern, *Trichomanes*, English black maiden hair, *Chamaidrys palustris*, Water germander, *Equisetum muscorum*, Moss-like creeping horsetail, *Filix minor longifolia*, (a curious fern, only as yet found in the mountains of Mourne), *Fucus alatus*, Tangle, *Fungus arboreus*, growing in decayed oaks, *Fungus pileatus*, Chesnut-coloured mushroom, *Fungus pulverulentus*, Dusty mushroom, *Gladiolus lacustris*, Water gladiole, *Gramen miliaceum*, Mountain millet grass, *Gramen cyperoides*, *Muscus repens*, *Muscus clavatus*, Cypress moss, *Orobis sylvaticus*, Bitter vetch, Fever few, (*Matricaria vulgaris*), Goat's rue, *Galega vulgaris*, and Dwarf-elder, *Sambucus humilis*, together with Winter green, *Pyrola*, German knotgrass, *Polygonum Germanicum*, Meadow rue, *Thalictrum majus*, Golden rod, *Virga aurea*, Common juniper tree, *Juniperus vulgaris*, Club moss, *Lycopodium*, Weeping horse tail, *Equisetum muscosum*, Wild orache, *Chenopodium*, (once used as food, seasoned like spinach, and affording "a wholesome and grateful dish," Dusty mushroom, *Fungus pileatus*, Bastard hellebore, *Helleborine palustris*, Water horehound, *Lycopus palustris*, and *Subularia erecta*, or *Gramen Junceum Hibernicum*, described by Harris,

as truly an Irish plant, growing under the water in Lough Neagh, near "Moyra."

He also enumerates Black horehound, Mugwort, Sea scurvy grass, Sea pink, Sea lavender, Buckthorn plantain, Sea milkwort, and Sea chickweed.

In the annotated edition of Harris, to which reference has so frequently been made, the following species, with their habitats, are added to those included in the list of that writer:—

*Asplenium ruta minima*, *Absinthium maritimum*, Wormwood, *Agrimonia Eupatoria*, Hound's tongue, *Andromeda Daboecia*, Irish whorts or Cantabrian heath, *Chrysanthemum leucanthum*, White Oxeye, *Gentiana campestris*. Field gentian; and in the same localities, Lesser centaury, *Gentiana centaurium*. White dead nettle, *Lamium*, Navel wort, together with *Cotyledon umbilicus*, *Polypodium fragilis*, *Equisetum arvense*, *Crambe maritima* *Pteris crispa*, *Ormundia crispa*, *Asplenium lateralis*, *Polypodium lorchitis*, and *Crambe maritima*, Sea colewort.

The occurrence of some of the above species, however, is questionable.

Many plants occur in amazing profusion, which may be accounted for, by a calculation of Dr. Woodward, to the effect, that one seed of the common spear thistle will, at the first crop, produce 24,000 seeds, and 576 millions at the second.

The following, although occasionally met with, are probably not indigenous:—

*Aquilegia vulgaris*, *Helleborus viridis*, *Corydalis lutea*, *Cheiranthus cheiri*, *Camelina sativa*, *Reseda fruticulosa*, *Viola hirta*, *Hypericum anglicum*, *Trifolium resupinatum*, and *Spiræa salicifolia*.

Before leaving this part of the subject, it may be useful to enumerate some of the localities or habitats, likely to reward the researches of the botanist, comprising the Mourne Mountains, Cultra Wood, Mount Stewart Demesne, Drumbo, Holywood, New Castle, Tollymore Park, Scrabo Hill, Crawford's Burn, Newtownards Glen, Holywood Moss, the Cotton Moss at Donaghadee,

the Coasts of Ards, and Lecale, Sheepland, St. John's Point, Ros-trevor, Warrenpoint, Castle Espie, Hillsborough, Saintfield, and Moira.

Though the planting of timber has not been very extensive, in the County of Down, yet most of the trees described by Evelyn, Gilpin, and other writers on arboriculture, are to be met with, as well as numerous additions, made in recent years, to which we shall now briefly advert, to complete our sketch of the Botany of the county.

The False acacia, or Locust tree, has been well known since the time of Evelyn.

*Arbutus Unedo*, *Fragaria vesca*, or Strawberry tree, the *Arbutus* of Virgil, is very ornamental, but the Oriental *arbutus* (*Andrachne*), even excels it in beauty.

The Apple, *Pyrus*, is mentioned as early as the time of Homer.

There are various species of Ash, *Fraxinus excelsior*, styled the Venus of the forest, and from some kinds manna may be procured.

The Alder, *Alnus Betula*, under water, acquires the hardness of stone, and the bark is used in tanning.

There are several varieties of the Boxwood tree, *Buxus sempervirens*, which yields a hard grained wood, so heavy, that it will sink in water, and it is sold by weight.

The juice of the Buckthorn, *Rhamnus catharticus*, combined with alum, forms sap-green.

The Birch, *Betula*, is the most elegant and graceful of our woodland trees, and it is hence called "the lady of the forest." It is almost the only tree growing in Norway, where they use the bark and twigs, for roofing houses, and making baskets, mats, cordage, and even boots and shoes. A tar, extracted from the bark, gives Russian leather its peculiar smell. Gerard says, "Schoolmasters and parents do terrify their children with rods of birch."

The Beech, *Fagus sylvatica*, comprises several kinds, but the Copper beech is only a variety of the purple species, and the Scarlet or Bloody beech, *Fagus sanguinea*, is another handsome variety.

The Cherry, *Cerasus*, includes true cherries, bird cherries, and cherry laurels. The Portugal laurel, *Cerasus Laurocerasus*, is a hardy and beautiful species. The Wild cherry, or Gean, is the original stock of all the fruit-bearing kinds. The fruit of the cherry yields kirchenwasser and maraschino, so termed from the Dalmatian marasche cherry, used in its manufacture.

The Cedar, *Cedrus*, is very durable, lasting from one, to two thousand years.

There are two kinds of Cedar, viz., *Pinus Cedri*, or *Cedrus Libani*, the Cedar of Lebanon, and the *Juniperus Virginiana*, Virginian juniper.

There are various species of the Chesnut, *Castanea Vesca*. This tree grows to a great size, the specimen "Il castagno di cente cavalle" in Sicily, described by Brydone, in his Travels, being 204 feet in circumference. The timber in Westminster Abbey is not, as believed, of this tree, but of a species of oak (*Quercus Sessiflora*.\*)

The Dogwood or Wild Cornel, *Cornus sanguinea*, is beautiful, from the deep red colour of its branches and leaves, in the fall of the year, especially when tinted with the sun's rays.

The Elm, *Ulmus Campestris*, includes various species, yielding very hard and tough wood. In districts where there are salt springs, it is used for troughs to convey the brine. These springs were called wyches. The name Wychelm, confined to the *Ulmus montana*, was formerly given to all elms indiscriminately. The leaves of the elm are sometimes used, in place of tea, in Russia, and according to Evelyn, they were formerly gathered in sacks, and used as fodder in Hertfordshire.† In Norway the ground bark is mixed with meal, and used as food.

Elder, *Sambucus Nigra*, is a common tree, the flowers of which are employed in making a fragrant distilled water, and a wine is extracted from the berries.

\* Gilpin's Forest Scenery.

† Evelyn on Forest Trees.

The Fir tree, *Abies*, was formerly considered a member of the genus *Pinus*, from which it has been distinguished by modern botanists, by its more pyramidal form, and by the leaves arising singly, and not by twos and threes, around the stem, as well as by their being evergreen, and differing in their fructification. The English name, fir tree, comes from the Saxon, *furd-wuder*, firewood. The kinds most commonly grown in this county are—*Abies Picea*, the Silver fir, *Abies Balsamea*, Balm of Gilead fir, and *Abies Excelsa*, Norway spruce fir. The Larch fir, *Abies Larix*, is a beautiful tree, in the early spring, when clothed in delicate pea green, and ornamented with flower spikes of a pink hue. There are also, the Sacred Indian fir, *Abies Deodara*, and various other species, not indigenous in this county. The Scotch fir, so called, is not a fir, but a pine.

The Norway Spruce Fir is useful in various ways, as spruce beer is made from the branches, whilst turpentine and Burgundy pitch are extracted from it, and the bark is used in tanning.

The Weymouth Pine was first planted at Longleat, in Wiltshire, by the first Lord Weymouth, in 1696. It grows rapidly, but it does not generally succeed. The largest specimens in this county are at Hillsborough.

The Larch, *Pinus Larix Europaea*, is peculiar, as losing its foliage in winter. The wood is most valuable, and Venice turpentine is procured from the bark.

The Fuchsia, of comparatively recent introduction, thrives well near the sea, owing to the absence of hard frosts, and some of the finest specimens may be seen, in the grounds of Old Court, at Strangford.

The Red species of Hazel, the Red May of our shrubberies, derived from the wild species, *Corylus Avellana*, is very beautiful.

The Green Holly, *Ilex Aquifolium*, is also very ornamental, especially in winter, when covered with a profusion of bright scarlet berries, glistening in the passing sunbeam.

The Hornbeam, *Carpinus Betulus*, is valuable for making hedges, which, when properly interlaced, are quite impenetrable.



There are three species of the tree, viz., the Hop, the Virginian flowering, and the Eastern Hornbeam.

The Black and White Spruce, *Pinus Abies*, the Silver Fir, *Pinus Picea*, the Balm of Gilead, *Pinus Balsamea* (seldom surviving above twenty years), and the hardy Austrian Black Pine, are all well known.

The Silver fir produces the yellow deal, and is sometimes, from its yielding pitch, called the pitch pine. Not being subject to warp, it is much used for masts and spars.

The Gledlow pine, *Pinus Cembra*, and the Pinaster, or Chester pine, *Pinus Pinaster*, are not uncommon, but a better description of the latter, was introduced by the Earl of Aberdeen in 1825, and is called *Pinus Pineus Escarinus*. The Scotch pine is useful for various purposes. A British frigate, the *Glenmore*, so named from a forest of the Duke of Gordon, was built of Scotch pine. In Norway, it is not considered to arrive at perfection until it is 250 years old, and it is there used as food after being ground and mixed with oatmeal.

The Horse Chesnut, *Aesculus Hippocastanus*, is a grand forest tree, its foliage being thick and dark, and its flowers beautiful. In Turkey, the nuts are ground, and mixed with the food of horses, whence its name. *Aesculus Carnea*, vel *Rosea*, the rose-coloured species, has deep rose-coloured blossoms of striking beauty.

The wood of the Laburnum, *Cytisus Laburnum*, is excellent, being used for veneering, and other ornamental purposes.

Ivy, *Hedera Helix*, is not a parasite, like the mistletoe, as it is nourished by its own roots, on the trees which support it.

The Common Juniper, *Juniperis Communis*, yields a fine wood, much valued by turners.

The Laurel, *Prunus*, requires shelter, and it thrives vigorously at Castleward, Castlewellan, and some other places in the county.

The Laurel or Sweet Bay, *Laurus Nobilis*, is a fragrant plant. It was formerly the practice to crown candidates for honours with bay leaves and berries, and hence come the terms, Bachelor, Baccalaureus, and Laureate.



The Lime or Linden, *Tilia Europœa*, yields timber, which never warps, in any temperature, and therefore forms excellent sound-boards for pianofortes. At Windsor Castle, and in St. Paul's Cathedral, there are some exquisite specimens of carving, in this wood, executed by Grinling Gibbons, which are still perfectly unchanged, although more than two hundred years old.

The Common Maple, *Acer Campestre*, is beautifully grained, and in ancient times, rare tables of this wood were bought at extravagant rates, and the ladies, when expense in dress and jewellery was hinted at, would point to the maple tables, with an allusion to their enormous price. This was called turning the tables,—a phrase which has come down to the present day.\*

The Candleberry Myrtle or Sweet Gale, *Myrica Gale*, is a fragrant plant, common in some of our bogs.

The species of Poplar are numerous, and all deciduous. They include the large-leaved White Poplar, *Populus Alba*, the Lombardy, *Populus Dilatata*, the Common Gray, *Populus Candescens*, the Athenian, *Populus Gravis* (which is of the same species as the common aspen), the Black, *Populus Nigra*, the Aspen or Trembling, *Populus Tremula*, the Balsam or Tacamahacca, *Populus Balsamifera*, the Necklace-bearing, *Populus Monilifera*, and the Canadian or Branching, *Populus Fastigiata*, having a naked stem, and a columnar head. They are all rapid growers, especially in boggy soils.

The Balsam Poplar is admired for the beauty and fragrance of its leaves. Its growth is rapid, and by intertwining the branches, an impenetrable fence may be formed, in a very short time.

Privet, *Ligustrum*, is useful for forming hedges, and the ever-green species is ornamental.

*Pyrus*. There are various trees of this genus, including the Apple, Pear, Beam tree, Mountain Ash, and Dwarf Crab. The Beam tree, *Pyrus Aria*, which bears handsome scarlet berries, is so called, for its excellence in the manufacture of beams.

The *Pyrus Domestica* is the true service tree, of which the

\* Copland on Agriculture, vol. ii.

wood is said to be the hardest, and heaviest of any tree, indigenous in Europe.

The Chinese Crab, *Pyrus Spectabilis*, is cultivated merely for the flowers.

The Wild Pear tree, *Pyrus Communis*, bears a profusion of beautiful white flowers; and the Wild Apple or Crab tree is also extremely beautiful, when in blossom.

The Mountain Ash, *Pyrus Aucuparia* or *Sorbus Aucuparia*, is variously known as the Rowan, Quicken, Quick beam, Mountain Service, Witchee, and Wigger tree. A spirit was formerly distilled from the berries by the Highlanders. Evelyn says, ale and beer brewed from them make an incomparable drink, much esteemed by the Welsh. When fully ripe, the berries are of a bright scarlet colour, and the tree is consequently very ornamental.

The Wild Raspberry, *Rubus Idaeus*, the Stone Bramble, *Rubus Saxatilis*, and the Sloe or Blackthorn, *Prunus Spinosa*, are very common, the provincial name for the fruit of the latter being "Winterpicks." The leaves are used in adulterating tea, and the juice, with the same object, in wine.

The Sycamore, *Acer Pseudoplatanus*, is a species of maple, and its inspissated sap yields excellent sugar, but not in remunerative quantities. The wood is especially adapted for turning, and making musical instruments. The sycamore of the Scriptures, into which Zaccheus climbed, to see our Saviour, is not, as commonly believed, this species, but a *Ficus*, or fig tree.

Oaks are divisible into three groups, viz., Forest oaks, *Robora*, European oaks, *Ilices*, and the Mossy-capped oaks, or *Cerres*. The Evergreen oak (*Quercus*), Common oak (*Quercus robur*), White oak (*Quercus alba*), and Senile-fruited oak (*Quercus sessiflora*), are all more or less commonly grown in different parts of the county. The varieties of oak are very numerous, amounting in all to about 150. Oak bark is much used in tanning, and also employed in medicines. Acorns are now scarcely used, except for the propagation of the species, but in very early

times, they formed a considerable portion of the food of the people. Subsequently they constituted the chief feeding, "pannage" as it was called, of the numerous herds of swine, which were kept in the forests, and we are told by Evelyn, that "a peck of acorns, with a little bran, will make a hog increase, a pound weight, in a day, for two months together."

There are various kinds of *Salix* or Willow, comprising the White (*Salix alba*), Crack (*Salix fragilis*), Bedford (*Salix Russelliana*), and Long-leaved (*Salix triandria*), with several other species, known as bay-leaved, purple, gray, yellow, and Basket-makers' Willow or Osier.

The well-known Basket-makers' Willow (*Salix Viminalis*), is of extraordinary toughness. It is usually cut for the manufacture of baskets, &c., although, if allowed to grow, it will reach the dimensions of a large tree.

The White-bark Willow, if kept perfectly dry, is even more durable than oak.

The Sallows are also a species of Willow, the principal being the Gray (*Salix Cinerea*), the Water (*Salix Aquatica*), and the Round-eared (*Salix Aurita*).

Other kinds of Willow are, the Goat, and the Weeping Willow (*Salix Babylonica*), so touchingly alluded to, in the 137th Psalm. A dye, made from the roots of the Crack Willow, was formerly used for staining the Pascal eggs.

*Ulex Europaeus*, Furze, Gorse, or Whin. The Dwarf Furze, *Ulex Nanus*, is a small variety, seldom over two feet in height. It flowers in September, October, and November, whereas the ordinary furze may attain the height of six feet, and it flowers in the early spring, and summer months, and sometimes even in the winter.

The Vine, *Vitis vinifera*. At Mount Stewart, there is a vine 2 feet in circumference. Its branches extend 20 feet on each side of the conservatory. In the same garden, an American aloe flowered in 1828, bearing 5,000 flower buds.

The Walnut, *Juglaris Regia*, is a very handsome, and fragrant

tree. A noble specimen at Waringstown House is referred to by Dubourdieu, and there is another at Maze House, near Hillsborough, supposed to be about 300 years old. Its greatest circumference is 14 feet near the ground, tapering upwards to 12 feet. The spread of the branches covers a circumference of 180 feet.

The Yew tree, *Ilex*, or *Taxus Baccata*, is of slow growth, and it will live to a great age. The wood is hard, compact, and extremely durable. In the olden times, it was the favourite material for making the bow, and the battles of Cressy and Poitiers were gained by the English yew bows.

The Irish Yew (*Taxus Fastigiata*), first discovered at Florence Court, is distinguished by its upright growth, and by its leaves being scattered, and not arranged in ranks.

Of all European trees, the Yew attains the greatest age, that at Braboun, in Kent, being calculated at 3,000 years, and those at Fountains Abbey having attained their full growth, when that structure was in course of erection, yet their age, great as it is, is far exceeded by the celebrated Baobab tree, reckoned to be more than 5,000 years old.

The mode of calculating the age of a tree is simple enough, as it is only necessary to ascertain with exactness its diameter, each inch of which will represent a growth of ten years.

The Wayfaring tree, *Viburnum Lantarum*, is rare, but the Woodbine, or Honeysuckle (*Lonicera Periclymenum*), is very common.

The Oriental Plane or Chinar, *Platanus Orientalis*, and the Western or American Plane, which resemble each other, are both known in this county. The former grows at Moira. It is a well-furnished tree, and has curious palmated foliage. The western plane is a beautiful tree, of very rapid growth, in a moist soil. The former, though so little planted, is better suited to our climate than the latter.

The most extensive woods in the county are at Tollymore, the two deer-parks of Lord Limerick there, having been planted by Lord Clanbrassil, the son of that nobleman. The late

proprietor, the third Earl of Roden, made the extensive additions, of more than a million and a half of trees, between the years 1824 and 1833. In 1826 he had the timber valued, by Monteath, an experienced Scotch forester, who estimated such trees, as he considered necessary to be cut down, at £6,000, and the remainder at about £70,000. The larch grown here is of excellent quality, and a saw-mill, erected at a considerable expense, produces an abundant supply of scantlings, both for home use, and export.

The points necessary to attend to in cultivating timber are, proper drainage and preparation of the soil, the selection of suitable trees, and due care to plant them, in such numbers, that when the necessary thinnings have been effected, sufficient space may be left for air and growth, for thinning and pruning are as essential to success, as the mode of planting.

Various districts, in the County of Down, are well adapted for arboriculture, but additional taste might be displayed in the proper position and arrangement of the plantations, avoiding on one hand the stiff, formal, linear modes, in use up to the time of George I., and on the other, the bald, tame style introduced by Kent, and the celebrated "Capability Brown." An advantageous mode of planting is to combine coppice with timber wood, the former realizing a considerable profit, whilst the latter is in growth. On the most judicious manner of planting, the agricultural treatises of Lowe and Copland may be consulted with advantage.

Where, however, ornament, without too close a consideration of expense, is the object, early additions to the beauty of a landscape may be made, by the transplantation of trees of a considerable size, a process brought to perfection by the late Sir Henry Stewart, of Allanton, and clearly described in his writings.

An error common enough, in a commercial point of view, is permitting the trees to remain growing, long after their arrival at maturity, and readiness for the market, the effect of which is deterioration of the timber, and ultimately its final decay.

In concluding this chapter, we may observe that Irish Botany

has been indebted for its advancement to many successive writers, amongst whom we may include Boate, Threlkeld, Heaton, Llhwyd, Sherrard, Keogh, Molyneux, Smith, Ratty, Harris, Wade, Dawson, Turner, Hind, Millen, Mackay, Drummond, Templeton, Moore, Taylor, Harvey, Watson, Greville, Babington, Hincks, Tate, Dickie, and a few others, with whom may be associated Dubourdieu, and the several compilers of the County Agricultural Surveys.



RUINS OF MOVILLA ABBEY.



## CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS.

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IN place of the words in the text read as follows, at the pages as hereafter numbered :—

At page 6 read monarchs who, 9 descriptions, and from whom the, 19 rendezvoused, 31 Scatrick, 32 not infrequent, 42 have still representatives, 44 latter for later, 42 O'Lavery, 47 A number of families are commemorated, 67 side garments, were worn, 71 sky blue. Of, 73 events the inhabitants were, 92 Captain Roger West, Major Richard Bingley, Sir Robert Ward, 94 Robert Hawkins, 97 Matthew Forde, 103 built and possessed of much, 103 Sphinx and, 106 service to their country, 111 receiving as inappropriate, 116 Robert Blair, 119 embraced the covenants, 135 eight marriage districts, 142 parishes of Kilcoo and, 145 Seagoe, 146 Garvaghy, 148 Drumgath, Knocknamuckley, 149 Annahilt, 151 Aghalee, 152 corps of the cathedral, 156 capitalised, 159 Magherahamlet, 177 lettered inscription, 179 Slidderyford. Caves. Some, 180 stone cairn, 195 or patens, 204 number of threads, 215 introduction of machinery, 231 former was 1,268,845 and 265,970 into the latter, 259 Omphaloides, 265 Gracehall for Grace Hill, 278 Holywood first Monday, 300 Malby, 300 Barnes', 341 conterminal, 342 under the command of one constable, 342 Dr. Barker, and Glasdrummond, 344 close for colse, 349 Mr. T. Ferguson after Mr. G. Crawford, 351 Dubourdieu, 353 Bricrin, 402 Major Joseph Greer, 402 Banford, 412 Ulst. Jr., 416 foliage, 417 Myra Castle, 438 stories of the structure, 443 of Rutland, and Henry, 448 nigh Kylecleth, 462 Roddens, 476 Scatrick, 480 Holmculttrain, 495 after his death in 1780, 505 Major Bailie, 505 Cleland in place of Clelland, 517 Mr. Sharman Crawford; and the present incumbent, 517 in 1718, 517 Tobar Mhuire is in a demesne, 560 Monkstone or, 513 the very reverend the Dean of Ross, 572 Sgeac, 574 gneiss, 597 especially on the comparative, 629 amongst the aquatic mammalia, 632 Insectoros, 636 Loxia bifasciata, 641 Copeland isles, 657 and lesser forked beard, 667 Cirrhipoda, 670 Echinus spheræ, 672 Kellia suborbicularis, Turtoni, Gulsoni, 675 Hymeniacidon, 675 Armatura, Floreum, 675 Dysidea, 675 Farinaria, 693 Polystichum, 693 Dryopteris, 696 Spearwort, 98 Woulfe.

## ADDITIONS.

Dr. Reeves does not agree with Ware, as to the foundation of the Abbey of Neary, which he more correctly attributes to St. Malachias, King Maurice Maclochlain having only endowed it in 1237, about a century after its erection. (See page 328.)

Preface VI. add, after Professor Hodges and Mr. Thomas Kennedy Lowry.

It is now stated, that Antrim has been selected, in place of Downpatrick, as the station for the 63rd Brigade depot (p. 103.)

The Bell of Bangor Abbey, as I have been obligingly informed by Mr. Robert E. Ward, of Bangor Castle, is still in existence, but I have not ascertained in what locality it is preserved.

Selden on Drayton's Polyolbion says, "the hide, ploughland, carucate, or carve, ever an uncertain measure, I hold clearly to be equivalent," but in the time of the Conqueror, twelve carucates were contained in one hide, which represented as much as one plough could till, or about one hundred and twenty acres (page 619.)

A Spring meeting has been recently established at the Maze Course.

The new fair of Lisburn, referred to at page 278, takes place on the second Monday of each month.

At page 620 after original demand add, and not seldom rejected altogether. At p. 611, after Napier, insert Mr. Wm. Sharman Crawford.

Read Wolff, page 225, and an "hour," before in the narrows p. 475.

Miss Mabel Sharman Crawford, a sister of Major Crawford, is distinguished as the authoress of "Life in Tuscany," a very clever, agreeable, and interesting volume. This was casually omitted at page 547.

At page 89, the name of Lord Newry was inserted by mistake. The lineage of Lord Viscount Newry will be found at pp. 335 and 343.

Page 548, add after Grimsport "Ballykillare is the pleasantly situated marine residence of Mr. James A. Henderson of Norwood Tower."

Page 543, read Ballow for Baloo and add, the seat of Mr. Nicholson. The late proprietor, Mr. Robert Nicholson, was the author of a life of St. Patrick displaying much critical ability and research. The family came originally from Cumberland.

The sheriff for the year 1875 is Major G. R. Hamilton of Killyleagh Castle, page 98.

Expunge, at page 109, King's History of Ireland, 144 Cathesaire, 262 wag-gons after machines, 342 Streamview, 542 with the antlers from tip to tip, 513 Maze House, after Blaris lodge, 628 in the county, after common, 563 others after several, 340 that, before it is probable.

At 635 transpose swallow and swallows.

Substitute at page 347, "the Irish name being Creamehoill, or Cravwhill"—for corrupted into Crowwhill, and at page 689, scorpion for spider.

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